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CONTENTS

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT/SALT/MBFR

SALT Ratification Seen in Terms of Cooperation or Confrontation AA 1
[Dadyants in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 15 May]
Arguments of SALT-II Opponents 'Totally False' AA 3
[Bolshakov]
Moscow Discusses Debate Within U.S. Over SALT AA 4
[Lukyanov, Charikov]
TASS Reports Meeting of U.S., Soviet SALT Delegations AA 4
Socialist States Await West's Reply to June 1978 Initiative AA 4
[Melnikov in PRAVDA 17 May]

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

TASS Reports on Shield-79 Exercises Held in Hungary BB 1
USSR Defense Minister Returns From Budapest Exercises BB 1
Viktorov Comments on Warsaw Pact's Peace Initiatives BB 1
Shishlin on Goals of Socialist Countries' Foreign Policy BB 2

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' CC 1
[Shishkovskiy, Katin, Lomeyko]
Brezhnev-Tito Talks CC 1
SALT-II Agreement CC 1
Pact Foreign Ministers Conference CC 2
NATO, Disarmament, MBFR CC 3
Beijing Reaction to SALT CC 4
Middle East Events CC 4
Egypt's Economic Problems CC 5
Editorial Sees Progress in SALT Accord, Franco-Soviet Summit CC 8
[PRAVDA 16 May]

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Carter Interview on SALT-II, Middle East Reported A 1
Beglov Sees 'Rift Between Illusions, Reality' in U.S. Policy A 2
[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 11 May]
U.S. Develops Israel as 'Loyal Servant' in Middle East A 3
[Konstantinov]
Zorin on U.S. Scientists' 'Superiority Illusions,' 'Intrigues' A 5
Demichev Returns From New York Visit A 7
Kosygin Receives U.S. Trade Representatives in Kremlin 18 May A 7

CHINA

Beijing Said Digressing From Deng's Economic Course B 1
'Dangerous' Epidemic Again Breaks Out in East China B 1

NORTHEAST ASIA

U.S. Decides To Postpone Troop Withdrawal From ROK C 1
[(Golorev)]
PRC, Japanese Military Officials Meet in Tokyo C 1
Soviet Military Exercises Near Etorofu Protested C 2
[Tokyo KYODO]
'Investment War' Between Japan, Trade Partners Will Continue C 2

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan's Taraki Addresses Tribal Leaders D 1
Taraki Comments on Pakistan, Revolution's Successes D 1
Afghan Party Politburo Discusses Party Organization D 1

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Comment, Reportage on First Round of SRV-PRC Talks E 1
Talks at Impasse [Mineyev] E 1
Remarks by SRV Delegate E 2
SRV Ambassador to USSR Holds Press Conference E 2
Vietnam To Participate in 'Intercosmos' Program E 3
Kampuchea's Ros Samay Thanks USSR for Gifts E 3
Beijing-Backed Rebels in Burma Suffer Defeats E 4
Supreme Soviet Delegation Departs for Australia, New Zealand E 4

EASTERN EUROPE

Yugoslav Aide Hails Economic, Scientific Ties With USSR F 1
[Roganov in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 17 May]
Further Reportage on SFRY's Tito Visit to Soviet Union F 2
Visits Cosmonaut Training Center F 2
Yugoslavs React to Talks [Shakhin] F 2
Tito Departs Moscow F 3
Brezhnev To Lead Delegation to Hungary This Month F 3
Kosygin To Pay 'Friendly Visit' to Czechoslovakia Soon F 3
Grishin Greets Kapek-Led CPCZ Group at Moscow Meeting F 3
'No Obstacles' Seen to Better Relations With Albania [Adamov] F 4
Kruczek-Led Polish Sejm Delegation Departs USSR F 4

WESTERN EUROPE

SALT-II Should Be Supplemented by European Security Accords G 1
[Kozyakov]
'Urgent Problem' of Eurostrategic Weapons Examined G 2
[Proektor in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 11 May]
Outcome of Soviet-French Summit Important Step for Europe G 4
[Malin]
Vance Talks in UK To 'Legalize' Joint Support for Rhodesia G 5
[Shishkovskiy]

Vance Arrives London G 6
Soviet Foreign Trade Minister Arrives in London for Talks G 6
Spanish Communist Party Holds Plenum in Cordoba G 6
Portuguese CP Congress To Propose 'Democratic Alternative' [Aleksin] G 6
W. Berlin CP Delegation Visits USSR Organizations 14-19 May G 7
Mediterranean Socialist Parties Conference Ends in Athens G 8
Swiss Labor Party Veterans Delegation in USSR 29 Apr-10 May G 8

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

TASS Assails 'Piratic Essence' of Israel's West Bank Policy [Ponomarev] H 1
New Plan for West Bank H 1
Moscow Sees 'Coincidence' in Dayan, Mubarak Tours to Asia H 2
Timoshkin Refutes As-Sadat on Egyptian-Soviet Relations H 3
As-Sadat Plans To Call Conference on Jerusalem [Gerasimov] H 4
Growing Discontent in Egyptian Army Reported [Aruyunov] H 4
More on Palestinian Delegation Visit to USSR H 5
Khalaf Comment H 5
TASS Report on Visit H 5
Communique on Visit H 5
Departure of Delegation H 6
Report on 'Arafat Address to Damascus Solidarity Conference [Zhudro, Laugtin] H 6
Iran Demands That U.S. Postpone Ambassador's Arrival H 7
USSR Appoints V. Yukhin New Ambassador to Syria H 7

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

TASS Criticizes Possible Lifting of Embargo on Rhodesia [Kulik] J 1
Nkomo, Mugabe Agree To Combine Forces [Lobachenko] J 2
Communique Issued Following USSR Visit of Nigerian General J 2
Cuban, Ethiopian Foreign Ministers Hold Talks J 3
Cuba, Ethiopia Sign Agreements on Technical Cooperation J 3
Commentator Views Cameroon's Development, Ties With USSR [Baratov] J 4

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Mufti Denies Islamic Activities Proscribed in USSR R 1
Briefs: Chukotka Okrug Party Plenum R 1

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Gosplan Official on Poor First Quarter Industrial Growth [Barabeychik, Dyatlov] S 1
Minister, Shevardnadze Discuss Georgia's Gas Supply Flaws [ZARYA VOSTOKA 11 May] S 1
Baybakov Lauds 5-Year Plans at Anniversary Meeting S 2
Development of Electricity Output in Kazakhstan Praised S 3
Heavy Flooding Occurs on Many Soviet Rivers This Spring S 3

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Radio Reports Agricultural Progress for 18-20 May T 1
Commentator Reviews Fieldwork Progress Reports [Astakhov] T 3
Land Reclamation Minister Addresses Moscow Conference T 4

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Salyut Cosmonauts Continue Unloading Progress Craft U 1
Briefs: Monsoon Research; Expedition to Gulf Stream Delta U 1

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Military Leaders Attend Victory Day Wreathlaying V 1
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 11 May]
Belorussian MD Commander Cites Need for Strong Defense V 1
[Zaytsev in SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA 9 May]
Transcaucasus MD Commander Hits Imperialists, Chinese V 2
[Kulishev in ZARYA VOSTOKA 9 May]
Ogarkov Views Armed Forces, Military Policy on Victory Day V 3
[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 9 May]

SALT RATIFICATION SEEN IN TERMS OF COOPERATION OR CONFRONTATION

LD181413 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 May 79 p 5 LD

[Article by G. Dadyants, SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA international observer: "SALT-II on the Agenda"]

[Text] A meeting between L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and U.S. President J. Carter, in the course of which a new Soviet-U.S. agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms (SALT-II) is to be approved and signed, is to be held in Vienna approximately 15-18 June. This news is now the focus of attention of the Soviet, U.S. and also the international public, who realize the importance of this event.

Let us recall that the SALT-II negotiations have spanned more than 6 years and have been difficult. Those who opposed the conclusion of an agreement have done everything they could to block the talks. An agreement in principle on the main questions of a new treaty has nevertheless been achieved. Now it only remains for the Soviet and U.S. delegations in Geneva to embody the accords achieved in the text of an agreement and then submit the treaty for the heads of state to approve and sign.

The USSR and the United States are thus on the threshold of an important new stage in the development of their relations, one characterized by the switch to a practical limitation of the nuclear arms race. "For the first time," Duesseldorf's DEUTSCHE VOLKSZEITUNG points out, "it is a case of limiting MIRVed ICBMs, that is, limiting the qualitative arms race or the constant improvement and further development and updating of existing weapons systems."

SALT-II did not appear from clear air. The "Principles of Relations Between the USSR and the United States" were signed back in 1972--followed by an agreement to avert nuclear war and other important documents--in which the two countries' common goal--to eliminate the danger of a nuclear war--was formulated. "Life itself," L.I. Brezhnev has said, "requires that long-term considerations dictated by a concern for peace dominate Soviet-U.S. relations. We follow such a policy and we expect the same in return."

It is known that an approximate balance or, as they say, parity of forces exists between the USSR and the United States. This fact was the starting point for the Soviet-U.S. talks on reducing strategic arms. "We must," the New York TIMES wrote, "accept the new reality and learn to live with it. There can no longer be any such thing as significant nuclear superiority. The United States can no longer challenge any of the Soviet Union's major interests militarily. This is the most compelling argument for an accord on arms control."

The second starting point is the scrupulous observance of attempts to gain one-sided military advantages on any pretext. There can be no progress in the sphere of military detente unless this principle is observed.

The USSR's need for the SALT-II treaty is no greater than that of the United States--the USSR and the United States need it equally. The new agreement's merit is precisely that it takes into account both countries' fundamental and vital interests and security interests.

It is not surprising that the overwhelming majority of the American people, as evidenced by U.S. public opinion polls, is in favor of SALT-II. Some 75 percent of Americans polled support an agreement and only 12 percent oppose it.

And yet, despite the widespread support of public opinion and the accords achieved at government level, it cannot be said that the opponents of an agreement have given up the fight. On the contrary, the closer the day of the agreement's signing gets, the more fierce their attacks on SALT-II become. Who are these people? They are mainly people connected in some way or another with the U.S. military-industrial complex. They mean to do battle with the treaty in the Senate, since a two-thirds' majority vote is required for its ratification. At the same time they are casting about for arguments of various kinds against an agreement in order to justify their actions which are unprincipled and dangerous to the cause of peace.

The main and general argument advanced is, of course, the claptrap about the "Soviet threat." Demanding that the United States achieve "military superiority" over the Soviet Union, the so-called "Coalition for Peace Through Strength" has called on Congress to reject the SALT agreement. U.S. security, it is held by the politicos who make up the coalition, can only be guaranteed at the expense of the Soviet Union's security, by insuring a preponderance of force. In other words, the SALT-II agreement must be accompanied by "amendments" or be subjected to a "reexamination." The senators who oppose SALT, the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR wrote, wrongly presuppose that the Soviet side wants a SALT-II agreement so badly that it may agree to a review of the accords already achieved at the expense of its security.

The enemies of detente are trying to make the monitoring issue into a stumbling block, alleging that provisions to verify "Soviet compliance" are inadequate. But, as U.S. statesmen have admitted a number of times, the United States and the USSR each have sufficient national facilities to insure effective monitoring of compliance with an agreement. Moreover, the USSR has never violated its commitments, and this is illustrated by its scrupulous observance of all the provisions of the SALT-I agreement.

It is clear what aims are inspiring the opponents of SALT-II. They plan to bring back the past--by trying a new twist in the nuclear arms race to attain superiority over the Soviet Union, and to dictate a "pax Americana" to it from obsolete positions of strength.

The significance of a rejection by the U.S. Congress of the treaty which has been prepared can easily be imagined. Not only Soviet-U.S. relations but also the very attempts to contain the spread of nuclear weapons would be undermined and a shattering blow would be dealt to the arms control process which is so important to the strengthening of international security. Rejection of the SALT-II treaty, in President J. Carter's view, "would mean an end to detente and to all the benefits which go with it. It would also be certain to destroy the whole structure of friendly relations with the USSR and would inevitably lead to the start of a major new nuclear arms race." As a result, J. Carter emphasized, "other countries would look upon us not as a peace-loving nation but as a warmonger."

It is, therefore, a very acute question: Who will win the day in the United States--the forces of reason or the forces of war? What will prevail in future relations between the USSR and the United States--cooperation or confrontation, and what, in the final analysis, will prevail in the world--detente or a return to cold war?

If it is ratified, the SALT-II treaty will mark a new stage in Soviet-U.S. relations and will bring about a major advance in the cause of military detente. After SALT-II comes into force, L.I. Brezhnev has said, "work will begin on SALT-III. It must go still further and slow the creation of new types of weapons and make provisions not just for limiting the increase in arms but also for reductions in them by both sides. The present treaty is also certain to revitalize other talks currently in progress, such as those on a total nuclear weapons test ban and those on limiting the trade in conventional weapons, as well, we hope, as the talks on reducing armed forces and arms in central Europe."

It is supposed that the forthcoming meeting in the Austrian capital between the heads of state of the USSR and the United States will offer an opportunity for a broad exchange of views on these and other questions of concern to mankind.

ARGUMENTS OF SALT-II OPPONENTS 'TOTALLY FALSE'

LD210153 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Text] While most Americans and the public in the rest of the world welcome the coming signing of the SALT-II agreements, certain groups in the United States keep up a campaign against the accords. Here is comment by Radio Moscow news analyst Vladimir Bolshakov. He writes the following:

Significantly, the loudest voices in the corps of opponents of the SALT-II treaty are those of the hawks linked as a rule with the military-industrial complex. According to the New York TIMES, the most active opponents of the treaty are the Current Danger Committee [as heard]--Committee on the Present Danger] and the Coalition for Peace Through Strength. The paper says these two organizations have the generous financial backing of the munitions monopolies. The monopolies also pay for the services of all sorts of lobbies operating on Capitol Hill in the hope to convince the senators not to ratify the treaty even if it is signed.

The New York POST writes that the treaty opponents claim SALT-II will legalize a Soviet strategic superiority and the United States will not be able to duly find out some violations of the treaty by the Soviets. These are the two chief arguments. Both are totally false.

As for the treaty itself, according to repeated statements by both President Carter and President Brezhnev, it insures equal security of the two sides. This implies maintenance of an equal balance of forces or nuclear parity that has been established by now. As for the Soviet Union, which lost 20 million lives in the last war, the fact that it fully rules out aggression as part of its policies is to be seen not only in the Soviet Constitution but in all the post war international relations. The USSR is steadily following a policy of peace and peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems. In the United Nations and outside it it favors peaceful solutions of conflicts without the use of force. On the other hand, the Soviet Union could remind opponents of easier tensions that, according to information of the Brookings Institution, it is the United States--not the Soviet Union--that has dozens of times used its armed forces abroad since the end of the war to carry out goals of its foreign policy.

Nevertheless, the USSR approaches talks with the United States from positions of trust, assuming as it does so that both the United States and the USSR are interested in the maintenance of world peace, in further relaxation of tensions and in the development of good-neighborly relations.

As for the second argument of SALT-II treaty opponents, that it is allegedly impossible to verify whether the Soviet Union fulfills the treaty, these men ought to consult the Pentagon. According to a statement by U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown, the United States is fully able to control implementation of the treaty by the Soviet Union.

I may add that the best guarantee of the honest Soviet approach is the fact that throughout the operation of the SALT-I treaty the United States failed to register a single Soviet violation.

This is the invariable Soviet stand with regards to all treaty commitments.

MOSCOW DISCUSSES DEBATE WITHIN U.S. OVER SALT

LD192212 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Yevgeniy Lukyanov]

[Excerpts] [Lukyanov] The report of the forthcoming signing by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and James Carter of the second stage of the treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons has been received with great satisfaction in many countries of the world. The overwhelming majority of Americans are also in favor of the new SALT agreement. Over to our correspondent in New York, Igor Charikov:

[Charikov] Many Americans link the agreement with real hopes for restraining the nuclear arms race.

[Lukyanov] And, nevertheless, as is known, there are forces in the United States which do not like the new Soviet-U.S. agreement on SALT-II. What have you got to say about the activity of the opponents of the treaty?

[Charikov] The energetic activity of the supporters of SALT-II, has, to a certain degree, forced its overt enemies to quiet down. But these militant figures do not, of course, intend to lay down their arms. They are merely changing tactics. Few of them are now openly venturing to declare that they are against the limitation of the arms race. Only the most shameless militarists, from among retired armymen and their patrons, which have grouped around organizations with such intimidating names as Coalition for Peace Through Strength are capable of that. The rest attempt to undermine confidence in SALT-II through the back door, so to speak. We are not against the agreement in principle, we are merely trying to get it improved, they say. In other words, these figures wish to make the ratification of the agreement in the Senate conditional upon various amendments, which, in the final analysis, will reduce to nothing the significance and sense of the whole document.

[Lukyanov] What, in your view, are such actions by the forces of opposition to the Soviet-U.S. agreement aimed at?

[Charikov] These manoeuvers are aimed at the ordinary man in the street, who is still being frightened with the myth of the growing Soviet military threat, and at members of the Senate little versed in international affairs. To expose the absurdity and farfetchedness of such arguments is now the task of those who are struggling for SALT.

TASS REPORTS MEETING OF U.S., SOVIET SALT DELEGATIONS

LD181642 Moscow TASS in English 1619 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, May 18, TASS--The heads of the USSR and the USA delegations to the Soviet-US talks on limiting strategic offensive arms had a meeting here today.

SOCIALIST STATES AWAIT WEST'S REPLY TO JUNE 1978 INITIATIVE

LD181313 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 79 p 5 LD

[Correspondent I. Melnikov dispatch: "Once Again at the Negotiating Table"]

[Text] Vienna, 16 May--The news that Austria's capital is destined to be the venue in the very near future for the meeting between L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and U.S. President J. Carter has been greeted with great interest in Vienna.

At this meeting, in addition to confirming and signing the treaty on the limitations of offensive strategic arms, the leaders of the two states will also discuss other questions of mutual interest. In this connection local observers recall the words pronounced by L.I. Brezhnev relating to the SALT treaty at his meeting with voters in Moscow. "This treaty," he said, "will probably help also to revitalize other talks now in progress--for example, those on totally banning nuclear weapon tests, on restricting trade in conventional weapons and also, we hope, the talks on reducing armed forces and arms in central Europe." All this creates a favorable atmosphere for the next, 18th round of talks among representatives of 17 European states, as well as the United States and Canada, on the reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe, which begin here 17 May.

The history of the Vienna talks attests that the socialist countries spare no efforts to reach an agreement which would take the legitimate interests of all the participants into account and not harm the security of any side. The Warsaw Pact states have steadily developed their position during the talks. Last summer could have been a turning point at the Vienna talks, as Western politicians themselves acknowledged. On 8 June 1978 the delegations of the Soviet Union, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia gave realistic key answers to questions at the talks with broad regard for the views of their other participants. The socialist states thereby helped to draw the positions considerably closer. These constructive compromise proposals still retain their topicality in full. In their proposals the socialist states expressed readiness to establish equal overall levels or "ceilings" for the size of the NATO and Warsaw Pact armed forces at the center of the continent--900,000 men each, including 700,000 for ground forces. Here only ground forces are to be reduced, with limits set on air force personnel. In practice this means both satisfying the West's desire for "collective ceilings" and creating preconditions for ending the fruitless discussion of "numerical data" being imposed by the NATO countries. Worthy of note is the USSR's agreement to reduce the troops at the first stage by formations (divisions), whereas the United States would withdraw its troops from central Europe in brigades (this reduction procedure, incidentally, is easier to verify. At the first stage the USSR and the United States are to reduce their troops by an equal precentage, that is, in proportion to their strength in that region. Finally, the socialist countries accept the Western arms reduction scheme ("the East's tanks for the West's tactical nuclear means"). This means that the Warsaw Pact states display readiness to withdraw from the zone of reductions a considerable quantity of war materiel, including 1,000 tanks. A reduction by a corresponding number in the units of tactical nuclear means and delivery systems at the same time should be the West's reply step.

The world public remembers the reaction elicited from the West's leading circles by the Warsaw Pact countries' June initiative. U.S. President J. Carter described the socialist countries' proposals as "a concrete step in the right direction," and FRG Federal Chancellor H. Schmidt called them "a significant basis for achieving the aim of the Vienna talks." For approximately 1 year now, however, the NATO states have not made a businesslike reply to those proposals. Therefore there is still no real progress at the Vienna talks--which arouses the peoples' great dissatisfaction. Questions of reducing military potentials at the center of the European Continent are an inalienable part of the concrete and integral action program of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community states for the whole disarmament sphere. The consistent desire to secure a positive outcome to the Vienna talks was confirmed in the declaration of the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee in November 1978. A constructive reply by the West to the socialist countries' June initiative would be truly in the spirit of the times. It would make it possible to substantially promote the cause of political and military detente on our continent. But for this, as was emphasized at the session of the Warsaw Pact states' Foreign Ministers Committee that has just ended in Budapest, the Western participants in the Vienna talks must also show goodwill.

TASS REPORTS ON SHIELD-79 EXERCISES HELD IN HUNGARY

LD191720 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 19 May 79 LD

["Staff and Troop Exercises of Armies of the Warsaw Treaty Member Countries"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--In conformity with the plan for joint measures of the united armed forces, operational-tactical staff and troop exercises of the Warsaw Treaty member states named Shchit-79 (Shield-79) were [held] in Hungary's territory from May 12 to 19.

Taking part in the exercises were the staffs and troops of the Bulgarian People's Army, the Hungarian People's Army, the Soviet Army, the Czechoslovak People's Army as well as the staffs of the Army of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The exercises were held under the command of General of the Army Lajos Czinege, defence minister of the Hungarian People's Republic.

Present at some stages of the exercises were First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party CC Janos Kadar, President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic Pal Losonczi, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers Gyorgy Lazar.

Present at the exercises were defence ministers of Warsaw Treaty states with delegations, the commander-in-chief and the chief of staff of the United Armed Forces.

Worked out at the exercises were questions pertaining to combat operations by the joint efforts of the arms and services of the allied armies. The exercises have shown the increased level of operation-tactical training standards of generals and officers of staffs and troops. It contributed towards further perfecting the cooperation of the armies of the Warsaw Treaty member states and strengthening combat cooperation between them.

In the course of the exercises, Janos Kadar received defence ministers of Warsaw Treaty member states, the commander-in-chief and the chief of staff of the United Armed Forces.

USSR DEFENSE MINISTER RETURNS FROM BUDAPEST EXERCISES

LD201736 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Text] Marshal of the Soviet Union Ustinov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of defense arrived in Moscow today from Budapest. He had been taking part in Shield-79, the operational and tactical exercises of staffs and troops of the member states of the Warsaw Pact.

VIKTOROV COMMENTS ON WARSAW PACT's PEACE INITIATIVES

LD192316 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Next, an analysis by commentator Viktor Viktorov on the proposal by the Warsaw Treaty countries to call a conference to reduce military tnesion with the participation of all the European countries, the United States and Canada: [read by announcer]

The proposal was made by the Warsaw Treaty Foreign Ministers' Committee. The ministers met in Budapest a few days ago. The new initiative has at once attracted the attention of the world public because of the pressing nature of the issue involved. It is now paramount to extend the relaxation of political tensions to the military field. This is particularly essential because NATO keeps building up armaments at a fast rate. The latest series of conferences of the top-ranking military leaders of the alliance confirmed a 3 percent annual increase of the military budgets of the NATO countries. The green light was also given to the Pentagon's program to force plans for modernizing U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

According to the West German newspaper STUTTGARTER ZEITING, the meetings in Brussels outlined a course designed to build up both nuclear and conventional arms. Such a course is fraught with grave danger and, as usual in such cases, there are attempts to justify it by a mythical threat from the East. The peace initiatives of the Warsaw Treaty countries give the lie to that absolutely false invention. Unlike the NATO member states, which are steering toward aggravating the situation in Europe, the Warsaw Treaty Organization proposes a war of reducing military confrontation and starting disarmament.

The all-European conference would be an appropriate venue for discussing military relaxation issues. First of all, such isssues would imply concluding a treaty between the participants of the conference on not being the first to use either nuclear or conventional arms against one another. It is also important to promote trust between states. There are all the necessary conditions for that now: For example, the participants in the all-European conference in Helsinki have started informing one another about military exercises. Why can't this practice be extended? Why not issue information not only about military maneuvers, but also about all large-scale troop movements or about large air force and naval exercises if they are held close to the coastal waters of the other countries that attended the all-European conference?

The Warsaw Treaty states are also ready to agree about spreading measures of building trust to the Mediterranean area and to consider other issues. There is no point in putting off a conference involving all European countries, the United States and Canada. It is expedient that such a conference should be convened this year. If such a conference were a success, it would deepen trust between countries in Europe, reduce the military confrontation on the continent and help to promote world peace.

SHISHLIN ON GOALS OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES' FOREIGN POLICY

LD192013 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1500 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Here is a talk by Soviet journalist Nikolay Shishlin who specializes in international issues.

The author analyzes the influence exerted by the socialist community on the international situation. Approximately a tenth of the world's population live in the socialist community countries. On the other hand, they produce a third of the global industrial production. However, politics is not arithmetic. International influence is by no means defined by population figures, the number of industrial enterprises, harvest yields or military potential. The nature and the force of this kind of influence have as their source the direction of foreign policy.

What is socialist foreign policy like? It has a lasting material foundation. For more than 30 years, the socialist community countries have been cooperating with one another within the framework of CEMA.

In this period, their national incomes have gone up approximately 10-fold--3 times more than the corresponding index of the developed capitalist states. As is known, the USSR, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Romania and Czechoslovakia cooperate within CEMA.

Nor is it a secret that socialist countries are concerned with strengthening their defensive capability. They have all the necessary wherewithal to confront danger from abroad. At the same time, the Soviet Union, or other Warsaw Pact countries are only doing what is absolutely necessary from the point of view of defence interests in this field. What is more, they strive very much to insure that a resolute turn from the arms race to disarmament does take place.

The Soviet-American negotiations concerning the issue of limiting strategic offensive arms are an important step in the direction of disarmament. The relevant agreement, to be signed by the most powerful nuclear powers, will introduce limits on the range of the most dangerous and destructive kinds of modern arms. This agreement can become a starting point for further steps aimed at curbing the arms race. What is very important is the fact that the SALT-II agreement will be conducive to deepening trust in international relations.

However, a no less complex problem will have to be solved following the signing and ratification of the Soviet-American agreement. To be concrete, I mean nuclear disarmament. The Soviet Union proposes--and its Warsaw Pact allies support this--that talks between the five nuclear powers on the issue of liquidating stockpiles of nuclear arms should start without delay. Is it not better to join efforts in using atomic energy exclusively for peaceful purposes?

The struggle for military detente on the European Continent constitutes another, very important direction of socialist foreign policy. Most likely our listeners are familiar with the idea put forward by Leonid Brezhnev, to the effect that all-European conference's participants should pledge not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional weapons against one another. There exist proposals by the Warsaw Pact countries concerning reduction in numerical strength of troops taking part in military exercises, and concerning advance warning of major military movements in border zones.

The socialist community has also put forward a number of other initiatives. Adoption of these proposals will deepen trust between states, which, in its turn, will exert a positive influence on solving concrete disarmament problems.

In the concluding part of his talks, Nikolay Shishlin writes: Despite the myth created by promilitarist and Beijing propaganda about the Warsaw Pact posing a military threat, the socialist countries in essence, come out as fighters for disarmament. One's attitude to the problem of the arms race, especially in this nuclear age of ours--I think that listeners will also share this viewpoint--is a true test of the aims of one's foreign policy. As far as the world socialist system is concerned, the goal is to eliminate wars from the life of peoples.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD201906 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 20 May 79 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program presented by Vsevolod Shishkovskiy, all-union radio commentator, with Vladimir Kostantinovich Katin, political observer of the NOVOSTI press agency and Vladimir Borisovich Lomeyko, political observer of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA]

[Text] [Shishkovskiy] Hello, comrades! During the past week the attention of the world public and press has focused on a whole group of important events in international life. Above all, there were the meetings and talks between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Josip Broz Tito; the session of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee, held in Budapest; and the latest, 18th round of talks in Vienna between representatives of 17 European states, and the United States of America and Canada, on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

These and some other subjects are what we would like to touch on in greater detail in our conversation today: Taking part are Vladimir Konstantinovich Katin, political observer of the NOVOSTI press agency; and Vladimir Borisovich Lomeyko, political observer of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA.

Brezhnev-Tito Talks

The world public has greeted with satisfaction the results of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's talks with Josip Broz Tito, held in Moscow, during which key international questions and the state of, and prospects for all-round Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation were reviewed. The foreign press noted the friendly and open atmosphere in which this meeting passed.

Speaking on 17 May at the dinner in honor of Josip Broz Tito, Comrade Brezhnev stressed that inherent in relations between the Soviet and Yugoslav peoples are the profound liking of and the constant desire for broad cooperation. The differences in the approach to certain international problems, he noted, do not hide this fundamental fact. Soviet-Yugoslav friendship can and must be an influential factor for peace and progress in Europe and beyond. As is known, the international situation today is not tranquil. Now in one part of the world, now in another, peace is subjected to dangerous ordeals. The arms race is particularly dangerous. We, Soviet communists, Comrade Brezhnev stressed, see that one must continue to work and work again for the sake of a stable peace, for the sake of better and more developed international cooperation. Various countries are becoming increasingly ready to take part in dialogs and to undertake joint efforts. This was vividly confirmed by the recent top-level Soviet-French talks. They have become an example of how new horizons can be opened up for cooperation in the name of detente and in the name of peace throughout the world. We stand on the threshold of fully completing our talks with the United States on the limitation of strategic arms, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev noted. The agreements which are to be signed during our meeting with President Carter, Comrade Brezhnev stressed, will without doubt become an important landmark on that hard but true path that leads to peace and the security of peoples.

SALT-II Agreement

[Lomeyko] It has perhaps been a long time since such news as the news of the success in the agreement on the limitation of strategic arms has rocked the entire international public to such a degree.

The report on the Soviet-American summit meeting which is to take place in Vienna in the middle of June has been received with great interest by politicians and laymen alike. The reason for this keen interest is simple: At issue is a specific measure for limiting strategic offensive weapons, and this problem, as you know, affects everyone--great and small powers, very developed and not very developed countries, states forming part of military-political blocs and neutral, nonalined countries. Should a nuclear conflict break out--and this is precisely what the arms race can lead to--then many states will be drawn into the nuclear catastrophe, some against their will. And if one takes into account nuclear fallout and the contamination of the environment it is altogether hard to imagine any corner of the earth remaining untouched by the deadly breath of the nuclear typhoon.

The world sees the true worth of the accord of the two great powers to conclude the SALT-II agreement, and in the first place of the untiring and consistent efforts of the Soviet Union on this road. Even people in the West who are far from entertaining sympathies for socialism note that the SALT-II talks owe their success above all to the balanced and constructive position of the USSR. In Washington there have been changes of administration, changes in their political moods, but Moscow's position did not vary. The foundation of its position were the immutable principle of equality and the desire to reach an accord which was not detrimental to either side.

[Shishkovskiy] Vladimir Borisovich, I would like to stress at this point the fact that the opponents of the agreement--who, by the way, are not dismayed, but are intending with even greater vigor to put spokes in the wheels of SALT-II--are attempting, these days, to discredit the agreement and diminish its significance. Some of them say that the treaty brings very little, since the arms race will continue. Others frighten Americans by saying that SALT-II is disadvantageous to the United States. Yet others try to fool the Western Europeans by saying that SALT-II leaves them defenseless against Soviet missiles in Europe.

[Lomeyko] What can you say to that? The vested interests of the military-industrial complex in the West and the Beijing opponents of detente are certainly behind such assertions. It has been calculated that the SALT-II agreement will permit the United States alone to save $30 billion. No mean sum, eh? But at the same time this gigantic sum is not destined for the safes of certain military monopolies, for whom SALT-II means getting the wrong end of the bargain. The new treaty makes provision for the adoption of measures not only for the limitation, but also the reduction of strategic arms. Surely this is a real step on the path of bridling the arms race.

But there is also another side to things, apart from the purely military aspects; the political and psychological side. The SALT-II agreement leads to an improvement of Soviet-American relations and this will in turn have a beneficial effect on the whole range of East-West problems and will, without doubt, strengthen international detente. The positive outcome of many years of talks, with their many difficulties, on SALT-II, raises the level of confidence not only between the direct participants of the talks, but also between their allies.

[Shishkovskiy] Vladimir Borisovich, in this light how should we view the assertions of certain circles in the West that the SALT-II agreement is supposedly advantageous only to the Soviet Union and the United States, but unfavorable to the Western Europeans?

[Lomeyko] This refrain has long come from the ranks of skeptics and opponents of the agreement. They attempt to present things as if the SALT-II treaty draws U.S. attention away from Western Europe, which is supposedly threatened by Soviet missiles.

This slanderous campaign has two aims: On the one hand, to cast aspersions on the SALT-II agreement, and, on the other, to secure the deployment in Western Europe of strategic Euro-missiles. But today the European Continent, as no other continent, is saturated with arms, including nuclear ones. But if you listen to some Western radio voices, Western Europe is depicted as some defenseless Cinderella before the Russian bear. If you listen to these fairy tales about the Soviet threat, then it turns out that the Western European countries which form NATO should urgently have their own strategic nuclear forces in order to defend themselves. Incidentally, they are very keen in the West to calculate the numbers of Soviet missiles and tanks and at the same time they do not particularly like to advertise their own arsenals. And yet Western Europe is literally bristling with arms, including nuclear ones. American stockpiles in Europe hold over 7,000 nuclear charges, with a capacity ranging from several kilotons to a megaton. To deliver these explosives, there are over 3,000 units of various means, including carrier-aircraft, Pershing operational missiles, tactical missiles, and so on. But this is not enough for the NATO generals, and they want to replace the Pershing-1 missile with the Pershing-2, and to increase its range from 700 km to 1,800 km. At the same time they want a new ballistic missile with a range of several thousand kilometers and cruise missiles based on the ground and at sea to be adopted as arms. The implementation of such plans, however, can only urge on the arms race.

[Shishkovskiy] But UN specialists, just like prominent scientists of East and West, have long since proved that raising the level of armament, when there is strategic parity, does not increase, but lowers, security.

[Lomeyko] Yes, and it is precisely for this reason that the Soviet Union proposes that, simultaneously with talks on SALT-II and later SALT-III, efforts be undertaken to reduce arms of other types, including reaching an agreement at the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

Europe, as the homeland of detente, could--and must--become the homeland of military detente also, if concrete measures are taken in this sphere. The SALT-II agreement could become a stimulus toward this. As for the socialist countries of Europe, they have once again reaffirmed their interest in mitigating antagonism on the European Continent.

Pact Foreign Ministers Conference

[Shishkovskiy] And that has been convincingly shown by the session of the Foreign Ministers Committee of the member states of the Warsaw Pact held in Budapest last week, and at which it was particularly stressed that the development of the international situation has fully confirmed the relevance of the conclusions, and the importance of the proposals, contained in the Moscow declaration of the Political Consultative Committee. These, as you know, are directed toward securing real breakthroughs in solving the radical problems of our time, and, above all, the problem of stopping the arms race and of disarmament, eliminating military conflicts and hotbeds of tension and deepening the process of international detente. The ministers expressed the principled positions of their states in urging the greatest stepping-up of efforts for the early achievement of a practical agreement on the conclusion and coming into force of a new Soviet-American SALT-II treaty, the transition to the next stage of the talks, the timing and order of talks on stopping the manufacture of nuclear arms and the banning of their use, the renunciation by all states of the use of threat of force and the taking of measures to strengthen the guarantee to the nonnuclear states.

The participants of the Budapest session consider that, at the present time, the prerequisites exist for widening the measures to strengthen trust between states and for concrete steps in the sphere of military detente in Europe in the spirit of the Final Act of the general European conference. Such measures could include prior notification of considerable troop movements, major air force and naval exercises near the borders of other states, and agreements not to widen military-political groupings in Europe and to extend confidence measures to include the Mediterranean region.

[Lomeyko] The Foreign Ministers Committee of the Warsaw Pact states, at its Budapest session, put forward an important constructive proposal to convene in 1979 a conference on the political level of all the European states, the United States and Canada. The socialist countries also propose that the states which signed the Final Act should reach an agreement on not being the first to use either nuclear or conventional arms against each other. The adoption of this proposal would create extra guarantees to avert armed conflicts in Europe. Now it's up to NATO.

NATO, Disarmament, MBFR

[Shishkovskiy] But Vladimir Borisovich, NATO at this very moment is demonstrating an entirely different approach to the problem of disarmament.

The series of conferences of the supreme military leadership of the NATO countries which took place in Evere, a suburb of the Belgian capital, was devoted to implementing a long-term armament program, with Washington asserting obvious pressure on its West European allies to get them to fork out money for new military expenditures.

Incidentally, the West German newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE recently noted that the Americans are insisting that at least DM 7 to 8 billion be earmarked for building new military depots, barracks, roads and airfields. They consider that without this it will be impossible to transfer five extra divisions to Europe should war break out.

[Lomeyko] There you have a sample of how NATO's mind words. Instead of seeking ways to reduce armaments, they want to squander more billions of marks and dollars on maintaining new military installations. The Soviet Union and the other member countries of the Warsaw Pact propose putting an end to the philosophy of the cold war, to which NATO still adheres, and replacing it by a philosophy of peace and trust. The success of the SALT-II talks provides an opportunity to achieve progress in other areas as well, including Vienna, where, as we said, the 18th round of talks on reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe has just begun.

[Shishkovskiy] I would like to stress again--and this is admitted by many leading Western observers--that the initiatives of the socialist states have opened the possibility of rapprochement and of achieving a compromise at the Vienna talks. Now it's up to the Western countries. If they support the proposals of the Warsaw Pact states at the present 18th round of the Vienna talks, it is believed that it will then be possible to make a start on concrete work to draft the first agreement on reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

Vladimir Borisovich, it is appropriate, I think, to draw attention to the fact that, against the background of the expected improvement of Soviet-American relations and of the forthcoming signing of the SALT-II agreement, the provocative role of Beijing is particularly noticeable.

Beijing Reaction to SALT

[Lomeyko] Yes. The news of the success of SALT-II seems to have stung Deng Xiaoping. He immediately began to denigrate the agreement and does not conceal his annoyance about it.

And no wonder. During his visit to the United States, Deng made great efforts to encourage the American hawks, and cherished the hope that, by joining forces, he would succeed, if not in upsetting the efforts to reach a SALT-II accord, at least to slow them down. The news that agreement had been reached between the USSR and the United States was a blow to Deng, not only to his personal prestige but also to the Chinese leadership's plans to wreck detente and worsen Soviet-American relations.

The reaction of the Chinese leaders to SALT-II has shown once again that Beijing is now the fiercest enemy of peace and detente. In its condemnation of SALT-II, Beijing goes further than many of the aggressively minded NATO generals.

Well, this latest self-exposure of the Chinese ruling clique may open the eyes of those in the West who may still be entertaining illusions as to the nature of Chinese influence on the international situation. It's the latest proof that Beijing is a disruptive factor affecting the stability of the world situation.

Middle East Events

[Shishkovskiy] For all the variety of the tempestuous events that are happening in the world, the political seismographers stress particularly the Near East. Isn't that so, Vladimir Konstantinovich?

[Katin] You're right. Events in the Near East have an importance, and consequences, far beyond the regional scale. Therefore, those events have become the object of close attention throughout the world. Let us talk about them in a bit more detail. The first act of the American scenario for the Near East, the signing of the so-called peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, has been played without visible hitches. After all, the rehearsals took an entire year and a half. Now that the treaty has come into force at the end of April, the question can be asked whether the long-awaited peace has really arrived in the Near East.

There are many reasons to think it has not. First, it is striking to notice the military lexicon that is being used by the United States, Egypt and Israel in formulating the so-called peace treaty. Thus, it has been announced that the United States is forthwith increasing its military aid by $5 billion to each side. The American press is asking why peace in the Near East should cost the United States more than the state of war. And indeed, no sooner had the separate peace treaty been signed than there were simultaneous calls both in Egypt and Israel for modernization of armaments, an increase in the numerical strength of the army and the acquisition of new weapons. Literally a few days after As-Sadat and Begin embraced each other on the lawn of the White House, Egypt's minister of the war industry declared that the Egyptian Army would be increased in number and strengthened by new arms. The United States was named as the supplier of those arms. Israel, in turn, made a most urgent demand for a large batch of U.S. tanks, fighters and armored personnel carriers. This suddenly accelerated rhythm of the arms race in the Near East since the signing of the peace treaty is fraught with great danger for the whole region. If Egypt and Israel have undertaken not to fight each other, then against whom do they intend to use the American tanks, missiles and napalm bombs?

Here we are coming to the main purpose for which the peace treaty, or more correctly the three-sided military pact, was concluded. American arms and equipment, Israeli military specialists and the Egyptian Army which is impressive for its numbers but which, alas, has not greatly recommended itself for its combat capability are the main elements in the military triumvirate which is being formed.

[Shishkovskiy] From the panorama of the situation in the Near East, which you, Vladimir Konstantinovich, have just been giving, the conclusion may obviously be drawn that in the present international context it might seem too provocative to openly set up a bloc like the disintegrated CENTO bloc. For this reason a fresh structure is being invented for military alliances in the disguise of peace agreements. Is that not so?

[Katin] Yes, the alienation of Egypt from the Arab states and its close and all-round rapprochement with the United States and Israel pursues the goal of using the country for the defense of American interests in the Near East and Africa. The strategic calculation is this: The stepping up of the U.S. military presence in the Near East, in particular in the Sinai, in the guise of supervising the compliance of the two sides to the peace treaty, should compensate for the disintegration of CENTO, the loss of NATO bases in Algeria, Suez and Malta and the elimination of U.S. military bases in Iran. In the new situation As-Sadat's Egypt is being assigned the role of mercenary to be used as needed by Washington and Tel Aviv. As-Sadat has already spoken in a threatening way with regard to Ethiopia and South Yemen and not without purpose has been holding maneuvers on the border with Libya. As-Sadat has already also threatened the PLO with cruel reprisals. One recalls that As-Sadat did not speak with such zealous bellicosity even when Israel was aggressing against his homeland.

As-Sadat has rendered Israel a great military service by concluding a peace treaty. Israel has now closed down the Egyptian front and has already transferred troops and equipment from the Sinai to the borders with Lebanon and Syria. Having secured a peace treaty with Egypt which benefits itself and having rid itself of worries on this front, Israel is now concentrating all its might toward the east, which is leading to relapses of aggression. For all intents and purposes southern Lebanon is being occupied. Operating in southern Lebanon is an Israeli hireling, a certain Haddad, who has proclaimed the setting up of independent Lebanon. This independent Lebanon is not recognized by anyone but is supported by Tel Aviv. These are the effects and consequences of Washington's peace treaty for the Near East. It is programmed for clear situations of conflict but not for peace. This applies, above all, to Egypt's approach to the Palestinian problem. As-Sadat believes that he has resolved this problem by signing the agreement with Israel. The Palestinians themselves will never agree to a perpetuation of their exile. This means that this source of conflict has not been resolved but on the contrary has been complicated. Increased arms deliveries to the Near East, now in two directions to Israel and Egypt, cannot ease the military tension in this region. On the contrary, the explosive situation there is being intensified. Therefore, the theatrical fraternization between Egyptian and Israeli leaders cannot remove a single problem of the Near East tragedy. The semblance of peace is still far from being peace and is not even a truce.

Egypt's Economic Problems

[Shishkovskiy] Many reports are coming in that the boycott of Egypt by the Arab states is becoming a serious reality, and this may have a negative effect on the Egyptian economy. What is your opinion on this, Vladimir Konstantinovich?

[Katin] I have in my time had cause to visit Egypt and study in particular that country's economic problems.

I must say that the total political ostracism and the trade and economic boycott, to which Egypt has been subjected by the Arab countries, are severe blows. Indeed, after these blows As-Sadat will be confronted with a serious situation since these blows will be followed by others. Judge for yourselves: As a sign of protest against As-Sadat's capitulatory policy 18 Arab states and Iran too have severed diplomatic relations with Egypt. Egypt's membership in the Arab League has been suspended, and Egypt was excluded from participating in the world Islamic conference which was recently held in Morocco. It has been expelled from membership of the Arab Bank of Economic Development, from the Organization of Arab Exporting Countries, and so forth.

Particularly harsh economic sanctions have been adopted against Egypt by oil-rich Arab countries, in particular Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. One must take account of the fact that over the past 5 years Arab countries transferred to Cairo $17 billion in the form of pure aid. The largest share naturally has been falling to the lot of the oil-rich countries. Henceforth As-Sadat will not get a single dollar from them. What is more, if Saudi Arabia and Kuwait suddenly recall their vast capital from Cairo banks, Egypt will simply have nothing with which to pay on current import deals. The practical implementation of the embargo on oil deliveries to Egypt from Arab countries and Iran has begun as well.

These are just some of the results of As-Sadat's pyrrhic victory of concluding a separate deal with Israel, thereby losing all his Arab friends without bringing peace in the Near East an inch closer. Has he drawn the conclusion from what has been said? The ending of tension and the trumpet of peace will be heard in the Middle East only when the main, key problem--the problem of the fate of the Palestinian people--is solved. This problem has united the interests of all Arab countries, excluding, of course, the leaders of Egypt. It seems to me that despite Egypt's departure from the pan-Arab struggle this struggle has by no means weakened, but on the contrary has acquired its second wind. This is expressed in the upsurge of solidarity with the Palestinians in the Arab world and the cohesion and unity of the Arabs.

Thus As-Sadat's betrayal has not split the Arab countries into hostile camps, as was schemed in Washington and Tel Aviv. The process of cohesion has become more active and vigilance has been stepped up. This strengthening unity is the guarantee of victory in the struggle of the Arabs for a just solution of the Palestinian problem. The Palestinians, who were expelled from their homeland 31 years ago, must regain their homeland and they will acquire it.

[Shishkovskiy] Summing up the results of our talk today, we can verify the fact, and it has been confirmed by recent events, that despite certain complexities and negative trends in the international situation the purposeful and peace-loving policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state has permitted the attainment of considerable progress toward lessening, and in the future, eliminating, the danger of the outbreak of a new world war. Although, as was stressed in the CPSU Central Committee's report to the 25th congress, universal peace is still by no means guaranteed, we have every reason to confidently say that the improvement in the international climate is convincing evidence that the achievement of lasting peace is not just a happy wish but a fully attainable task.

The time for our broadcast is coming to a close. I thank my colleagues who participated in our roundtable talk today and take leave of you, esteemed comrade listeners. Till we meet again! All the best!

EDITORIAL SEES PROGRESS IN SALT ACCORD, FRANCO-SOVIET SUMMIT

LD181039 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 May 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "In the Interests of Peace and Detente"]

[Text] Lenin's party and the Soviet state are struggling actively for peace and the security of the peoples, the deepening of the relaxation of international tension and the expansion of mutually advantageous cooperation among countries with different social systems. The support of the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries and the world's peace-loving forces is on our side in this difficult but noble cause. It can be said with complete justification that it has been possible to achieve substantial successes in every direction of the CPSU's foreign policy efforts defined by the documents of its 24th and 25th congresses. The trend toward the relaxation of international tension is the determining factor in the present situation in the world arena.

Now, at the threshold of the eighties, the task consists of insuring that detente triumphs irrevocably throughout the globe. Peace and detente are political twins. If detente is asserted, peace will be stronger. However, it should be remembered that peace is a common asset and therefore collective concerns on the part of states are necessary in order to preserve it and to consolidate security.

The Soviet Union advocates restraint and a considered approach and at the same time firm opposition to aggression when necessary. Influential and powerful opponents of the relaxation of tension--imperialist circles, the military-industrial complex and the NATO military--are seeking to retard and reverse the positive processes underway in the world arena. The enemies of peace are banking mainly on the arms race which they are fueling. And so there is no more urgent task for the peoples than to end the arms race and to achieve disarmament and detente in the military sphere, including the expansion of confidence-building measures.

One of the biggest tasks in this sphere is the elaboration of the new Soviet-American agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive armaments. Most countries and all to whom peace is dear have greeted with profound satisfaction the announcement that, according to an understanding which has been reached, a meeting will be held approximately 15-18 June in Vienna between L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and U.S. President J. Carter. The aim of the meeting is to approve and sign the treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive armaments on which work is now being completed and also to discuss other questions of mutual interest to the USSR and the United States.

If it is signed, ratified and enters force, this treaty will create a definite obstacle in the way of continued stockpiling of the most destructive and expensive types of weapons. It is mutually advantageous and does not infringe the two countries' security, and it will mean continuation of the process of curbing the arms race--a process started at the Soviet Union's initiative. The treaty will certainly also have a beneficial impact on the international climate as a whole.

The detente process is making steady headway. An example is provided by the European Continent where relations among states are being based on the accords enshrined in the Final Act of the all-European conference. The political relations between the East and West European countries have a new look. Contacts and consultations between governments and reciprocal visits by leaders have become customary. The geography of peaceful cooperation has expanded. Economic links have become more stable.

The recent talks in Moscow between L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman ofthe USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and President V. Giscard d'Estaing of France were a great contribution to detente and the further development of multifaceted relations among states with different social systems. Great and useful work was done during the exchange of opinions which took place in a businesslike and benevolent atmosphere. The 10th Soviet-French summit meeting since 1966 culminated in major results and the adoption of extremely important documents. Above all, there was the program for the further development of the cooperation between the Soviet Union and France to the benefit of detente and peace signed by the two states' leaders. The program, which represents a great political milestone not only outlines reference points for deepening the policy of international detente but also shows specific ways of achieving the noble aim.

"It is a new word in the practice of international relations," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted in his press statement on the Soviet-French talks. "Just as in the sixties and seventies the USSR and France were the pioneers of the detente process and contributed actively along with other states to its formation, so today they have reached accords which further detente in the present world situation."

The talks at the highest level between the Soviet Union and France showed that the two countries want to cooperate actively in the name of the peaceful future of their peoples and all mankind. The sides achieved broad mutual understanding in examining the most urgent problems of our time from the viewpoint of further steps to prevent the threat of war, to consolidate the detente policy in Europe and throughout the world, to end the arms race and achieve disarmament, to eliminate seats of tension and to strengthen international security and trust among states.

Assessing the results of the meeting in the sphere of bilateral relations and the number of documents signed for this purpose in Moscow, the international public is reaching the correct conclusion that Soviet-French relations are developing on a firm and stable basis and that they have a bright future before them. This is evoking approval not only in the two countries but also among the peoples of other states who realize perfectly well that the strengthening links between the two powers serve the interests of decreasing the threat of war and consolidating international security and detente.

The fruitfulness of our party's Leninist foreign policy line causes Soviet people tremendous satisfaction. This line is actively supported by the working people of the fraternal socialist countries and the earth's peace-loving progressive forces which advocate peace, the security of the peoples and social progress.

CARTER INTERVIEW ON SALT-II, MIDDLE EAST REPORTED

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["Interview by U.S. President"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, May 20, TASS--In an interview with the editors of non-Washington papers, President James Carter stated that Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks will be practically concluded by the time of the scheduled meeting with General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev in mid-June. The conclusion of the SALT-II negotiations and the signing of the documents during the Soviet-American summit, the President said, "will obviously be a major step".

"The SALT negotiations are a continuing process," the President observed. "The SALT-II is under negotiation for going on seven years. I am the third President who has participated in this process. It is a carefully balanced treaty. It is in our best interest. It protects our nations' security and will contribute to world peace and I think also is in the best interest of the Soviet Union."

Speaking of the prospects for the ratification of the SALT-II treaty by the American Senate, the President underlined that substantial amendments to the treaty would be unacceptable to the Soviet Union and to the United States. "It would put me in a very difficult position," James Carter said, "and I think that a rejection of the treaty would interrupt--I wouldn't predict terminate--but at least interrupt with serious consequences the process of controlling nuclear weapons over many years time."

"There would be no way to move to SALT-III. It would be very difficult to reopen SALT-II. It would be a terrible blow to our own allies in Europe."

"I think," the President went on, "they would start searching for some alternative for the NATO alliance exclusively. I don't think they would abandon NATO but they would just have to start feelers to the East to see if they could have some insurance there to avoid a confrontation when we ourselves have proven unable to lay the groundwork for nuclear arms control."

James Carter went on to note that if the U.S. Senate would refuse to ratify the SALT-II agreement or make amendments to it, "we would have a very serious problem in trying to restrain other potential nuclear powers from coming into being."

James Carter voiced comprehension that "in the peaceful competition with the Soviet Union, we would be at a decided disadvantage if we should reject this major move toward increased security, towards increased control of the world's most destructive weapon."

Going over to the current situation in the Middle East, James Carter stated that the American administration will not establish any contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation and that there would be no changes in this U.S. policy.

As a preliminary condition for some change in Washington's approach to the PLO, which, as is known, enjoys international recognition as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine Arab people, the U.S. President stated the demand that the PLO change its attitude to the U.N. Resolution 242 of November 22, 1967. However, the President said nothing at all about the Israeli Government's denial of the Palestine Arab people's legitimate rights and its violation of the crucial provisions of the November resolution which proclaims the acquisition of alien territory by war to be inadmissable and envisages the withdrawal of Israeli troops from occupied Arab territories.

BEGLOV SEES 'RIFT BETWEEN ILLUSIONS, REALITY' IN U.S. POLICY

LD210757 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 May 79 p 3 LD

[NOVOSTI political commentator Spartak Beglov report: "The United States and a Changing World; the Habit of Distorting Mirrors"]

[Text] Washington--New York-Moscow--During his recent stay in Washington this writer had occasion to attend an academic discussion on the question of Soviet-U.S. relations. During the discussion one eminent specialist on Soviet-U.S. relations voiced the following important idea: It is time Washington learned to be guided in its ideas of Soviet policy in the international arena not by the tiresome stereotypes evoked by certain tendentious statements by the U.S. mass information media but by a considered analysis of the nature of Soviet policy with consideration for objective processes in a rapidly changing world.

If we use this comment as a key to the building of U.S. policies, then the observer does indeed see before him a sort of dual world: the real world and the world of opinions. In the latter reign the press, radio and television whose owners in the United States are not called "opinion-makers" for nothing. For all the apparent diversity of the news, information on the outside world is sifted onto the pages of the newspapers and U.S. broadcasts through the sieve of certain stereotypes which color every fact with the subjective notions of the owners of newspapers, journals and radio and television stations. In addition matters are aggravated by the commercial rule that good news is not news. The implication is that bad or scandalous news best helps to seel a newspaper or program. All the more so news of this kind from abroad.

Since the first days of the socialist revolution in Russia the land of the soviets has been doomed in the eyes of U.S. "opinion-makers" to serve as a source of bad news. This reflected class-based narrow-mindedness and class-based hostility with respect to the new social system.

Mr Pritchard, the hero of Steinbeck's novel "The Wayward Bus," only a few decades ago held as sacred the belief that Russia was "the source of every kind of perfidy, evil and horror" and regarded even neighboring Mexico as "a country which is not only dirty but dangerously radical." The reason: "They have expropriated oil, in other words stolen other people's property."

A similar approach as that inherent in Mr Pritchard, who possibly seriously believed that what he had plundered was his own property, can also be traced in many more paranoid manifestations of present-day U.S. policy. Today this approach is particularly to the taste of various influential groupings ("lobbies") of a conservative and militarist nature collaborating with the "opinion-makers." It is not for nothing that the "Coalition for Peace Through Strength" organization receives tens of times more financial subsidies from the money-bags than the "American Committee for East-West Accord."

When you pass from one Washington legislator's office to another you sometimes catch yourself thinking how great is the power of newspaper headlines along the lines of "Soviet Union appropriates country 'X'" or "United States Country 'Y'." Yesterday country "X" was Afghanistan while today country "Y" implies Iran, while before that there were Angola, Mozambique, South Yemen and so forth. The doctrine of "American exclusiveness" that is, the self-proclaimed right to judge and condemn everything as much as your presumptiousness will allow, rules out the very idea that the political course of a particular country or the replacement of the organs of power have as their sources the urgent needs of a particular country's people and are born on national soil. To this day the ordinary American has not the slightest conception of, for instance, the fact that the revolution in Ethiopia is restoring a country which had been vegetating in poverty and feudal somnolence or that the revolution in Afghanistan has given the people access to administration for the first time and has given land to the peasants.

"The public wants to know facts, not fabrications," the advocates of freedom of speech in the United States assert. But the concept, artificially imposed on Americans, of the mass information media as "the most irreproachable institution of society" makes it possible to keep them in ignorance of the events taking place in the world. In fact the American public receives not facts but fabrications.

Even worse is the fact that quite often politicians are guided by these fabrications not only on Capitol Hill but at the command point of executive power. "Foreign policy is now made from newspaper headlines," they say in Washington.

Thus the favorite American children's game of "cops and robbers" has been transferred to international politics. In this scenario the United States is cast in the role of "bastion of stability and order." It needs subordinates, that is, countries prepared to perform the role of gendarmes. Yesterday it was Iran, today they are counting on Israel and Egypt. In Southeast Asia they are encouraging China's ruling clique to take on this job. The aim is to preserve access to raw material resources and military bases come what may. The "hawks," cunningly exploit the Americans' sense of property strongly developed under the influence of bourgeois ideology. Adapting everything taking place in the world to the stereotype of the "hand of Moscow," they are demanding superiority over the Soviet Union.

The Iranian shock might have served to sober them up. When I was in the United States a warning voice was heard from a politician made wise by experience, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations C. Yost. "The United States can no longer impose its role of 'bastion of stability and order' in situations connected with internal events in the developing countries although the latter may be of a revolutionary nature unacceptable to us." This is not the first appeal to remove the distorting mirrors from the U.S. corridors of power. But the continuing rift between illusions and reality threatens U.S. foreign policy with new failures and impasses. The "linkage" of these failures with the Soviet Union's behavior in the international arena is one more great mistake by U.S. policy stemming from a reluctance or inability to be guided by an in-depth understanding of the essence of the realities of a changing world.

...In a talk with me a commentator on an influential U.S. newspaper mentioned Henry Kissinger's recent statements supporting the fairytale of the need "to restrain the Soviet Union's expansion." We well remember Kissinger as secretary of state. When he held this post he acknowledged only facts. Since then the USSR's policy has not changed--it is Kissinger's position in the dual world which has changed. He is now straining to enter the world of opinions. But when people stop serving a realistic policy and begin towork for an audience, facts give way to fabrications, with all the sorry consequences for the United States and the whole world.

U.S. DEVELOPS ISRAEL AS 'LOYAL SERVANT' IN MIDDLE EAST

LD201038 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Yuriy Konstantinov commentary: "The Spoiled Child of Imperialism in the Middle East"]

[Text] As the national liberation movement of the Middle East peoples emerged in an area where the capitalist economy maintained substantial oil depots, imperialism was very seriously concerned with its investment in the area.

Consequently, imperialists began a frenzied search for a force capable of serving as a sword of Damocles over the Arab world; imperialism chose Zionism.

It is necessary to note that Zionism is a political force which was not originally intended to achieve rapid infiltration into the Middle East. At the start of its international activity, as a loyal servant of imperialism, Zionism was used to undermine the unity of the working class in various countries. It was only after the Arab national movement began to threaten imperialist interests in this region that the idea of creating a hotbed for the Jews in Palestine emerged. Imperialist rulers, including many representatives of big Jewish capital, then sought more secure forms of protecting their interests, instead of openly invading new colonies.

At that time England was the main colonial octopus and it was England which prepared to set up a Zionist sector in the Middle East. For their part, the Zionist leaders expressed their readiness to faithfully serve their masters, the imperialists. In this respect (Max Nordau), then one of the Zionist leaders, said: We know what you want from us; you want us to protect the Suez Canal for you, as well as your routes to India through the Middle East. We are quite prepared to fulfill this difficult task, but you should first allow us to grow stronger in order for us to assume our duty.

Zionist colonization of Palestine took place under the patronage of England; but after World War II, when the center of the Zionist movement moved to the United States, the Zionist leaders decided to swtich allegiance to another master. Since that time, and relying on U.S. gold and arms, Zionism has been a faithful guardian of American imperialist interests and its monopolies in the Middle East.

The most bloody crimes of Zionism in the Arab lands are associated with the Washington-Tel Aviv alliance. The U.S. protectors have turned Israel into a gendarme at their service in the Middle East, a tool to undermine the anti-imperialist movement, and a stronghold to oppose progressive changes in the Arab world.

While continually organising acts of piratical invasion against its Arab neighbors, Tel Aviv has always received generous assistance from across the ocean. Washington's support of its ally and associate has risen in proportion to the importance of the Middle East as an oil depot and the growing military and strategic importance of the Middle East. It is not difficult to follow the logic of the ruling U.S. circles: As far as they are concerned, it is necessary to develop Israel into a superstate capable of leaving its imprint on developments in the Middle East region through armed force. From 1972 to 1976, Israel obtained from the United States, in the form of loans and donations, some $10 billion. More than half this sum was spent on deliveries of the most sophisticated weapons, including arms the Pentagon has always denied to its NATO allies.

In return for the Israeli gun fodder, the Israeli leaders not only obtain money, but more territories, which is supported by the fact that the United States has for sometime openly, and quite recently loudly, supported the claims of the aggressors to occupied Arab territories. In Tel Aviv, they welcome these positions on the part of the United States, regarding them as gestures honoring previous pledges. Indeed, the aggressor occasionally resorts to blackmailing its protector. The Jerusalem POST once wrote: We must let it be known to the United States that Israel is the last U.S. bastion in the Middle East and that if the United States fails to extend to us unconditional assistance, the Americans will suffer more than anyone else because they would be driven out of the Middle East.

One wonders if there has been a U.S. response to this appeal. Naturally, yes. President Carter quite recently said: As far as I am concerned, my top priority is to secure a solid peace in the Middle East in order to guarantee the future of Israel in security and peace. But why only the future of Israel? Carter himself answered: During the entire peace process, there is only thing that remains constant: The unhestitating loyalty of the United States to the cause of guaranteeing Israel's security.

ZORIN ON U.S. SCIENTISTS' 'SUPERIORITY ILLUSIONS,' 'INTRIGUES'

LD200440 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 19 May 79 LD

["Moscow Viewpoint" prepared by political observer Valentin Zorin]

[Text] I'd like to begin by recalling a recent interview by a leading Soviet scientist, the astrophysicist Viktor Ambartsumyan. The reason I mention it now is that it has been practically ignored by the media in the United States, even despite the fact that coming from scientists of this caliber it should certainly be of interest to the public in your country.

Viktor Ambartsumyan spoke about the Voyager mission and studies of the ring of the Planet Jupiter. The mission and its most interesting findings have been given a detailed coverage in American papers and periodicals and it was stressed that the discovery of the Jupiter ring came as a complete surprise for the astronomers. At his press conference, however, Viktor Ambartsumyan said the Jupiter ring had been predicted 20 years ago by the Kiev University Professor (Chashlavskiy). His paper on this subject was published in 1960 in Russian and was also translated into several foreign languages inthe same year. Academician Ambartsumyan said the theory of Professor (Chashlavskiy) had a skeptical reception in the scientific circles but he continued to defend his views and repeated them again in the review "Problems of Contemporary Cosmogony," which came out in 1969 and 1972. These reviews have international circulation.

As he was replying to the question why this discovery by a Soviet astrophysicist is passed in silence by the Western media, Academician Ambartsumyan stressed that Professor (Chashlavskiy) is a well-known figure among scientists specializing in studies of planets and comets. His publications are often quoted by scientists in different countries. I am sure, said Viktor Ambartsumyan, that scientists engaged on the Voyager project must have been aware of his conclusions. He said the confusion on this matter was created by the media, who just didn't know the details.

Well, I must say at this point that much as I respect Academician Ambartsumyan, I am rather skeptical about his last conclusion. I know from my own experience with American science correspondents that most of these people know quite well what they are talking about and some even have a scientific background. I think making it an all-American discovery was prompted by political considerations and not by ignorance.

One of the correspondents asked Academician Ambartsumyan if it would be correct to say that the discovery of the Jupiter ring and of volcanic activity on its satellites belongs not to American but to Russian scientists. No, said Ambartsumyan, I wouldn't put it this way. American scientists working on the Voyager project haven't just confirmed the theory of Professor (Chashlavskiy) but have clarified many points. Their observations have revealed many important new details. Therefore, the honor of the discovery belongs both to Professor (Chashlavskiy) and to our American colleagues.

This stand of the Soviet scientists and also of the Soviet media which always report important American breakthroughs provides a striking contrast to the handling of this case by the American press.

I wouldn't have dwelt on this case for so long if it didn't betray a certain tendency which has little to do with science. One favorite argument of the enemies of international relaxation and Soviet-American cooperation is that this cooperation gives one-sided benefits to the Soviet side at the expense of American secrets. To prove this point the U.S. media tries to play down Soviet achievements in science and technology. The American public is made to believe that banning the sale of a computer to the TASS news agency for its coverage of the Moscow Olypics would halt Soviet technological progress. Or take another recent example: Some American scientists, who probably don't have much political experience, have been manipulated into signing a letter which makes Soviet-American scientific contacts conditional on certain demands. These demands concern two persons who have been tried and convicted by Soviet courts and they therefore represent an interference in Soviet internal affairs. Having no way of learning the true circumstances of the case these American scientists, who are all recognized authorities in their own field of research but who don't know much about politics, have threatened to stop scientific cooperation if the two convicted persons in question are not released.

Now, even besides the fact that scientists concerned about human rights have ample opportunities to champion this cause in their own country on cases like the Wilmington 10 or the case of (?Russel Means), who is as important for the American Indians as was, for instance, Dr Martin Luther King--so, even besides this fact, the scientists who signed the letter are clearly acting from the position of superiority. They clearly proceed from the assumption that it's the Soviet side which is more interested in Soviet-American contacts and scientific exchanges. It's also interesting to note that none of the American scientists who signed that letter has any experience of cooperation with Soviet research establishments. The letter was not signed by any of the U.S. scientists working in the field of thermonuclear fusion using Tokamak machines designed in the Soviet Union. The letter was not signed by any of the American scientists who are working on methods of direct conversion of heat into electricity in which the Soviet side has a clear lead.

I could continue the list of Soviet scientific achievements which are being used in the United States and which demonstrate the advantages and mutual benefits of Soviet-American cooperation in research. In an article appearing in PRAVDA the other day a group of leading Soviet scientists made it quite clear that Soviet-American contacts and exchanges in science and technology have nothing to do with charity and that they bring us mutual benefits. No realistic person can deny this fact, so trying to hurt us by obstructing Soviet-American scientific exchanges is just wasting time. We are quite capable of taking care of our own needs and this is demonstrated by our historical experience. Some champions of our science in the past denied that there can be any link between politics and scientific breakthroughs. Today we all know better. Research has become a major productive force and there is no denying its impact on politics. Mankind is facing tremendous problems which can be tackled most effectively by the combined efforts of scientists in different countries. This being so, arrogance and chauvinism are now quite out of place, especially considering the steadily mounting cost of research paid by the public in our countries.

It's not accidental that the enemies of international cooperation and international relaxation have levelled their attacks at scientific and cultural contacts between our countries. The Soviet side wants these links to be developed, not because it has inferior science and technology but because of the obvious advantages of maintaining such mutually beneficial cooperation. So the sooner some men of science part with their superiority illusions and the more they stay away from political intrigues the better it will be for both our nations and for the cause of universal peace.

DEMICHEV RETURNS FROM NEW YORK VISIT

LD191320 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Demichev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and USSR minister of culture, arrived today in Moscow from New York. He had been taking part in the opening of the exhibitions of masterpieces of Italian art from the collection of the State Hermitage at the Washington National Gallery, and of the treasure-house of the Moscow Kremlin Museum at the New York Metropolitan Museum.

KOSYGIN RECEIVES U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVES IN KREMLIN 18 MAY

LD181400 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] In the Kremlin today Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Forrestal, president of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council, and Giffen, president of the American firm Armco International, who are in Moscow on a business visit.

During the conversation Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin stressed the great importance for improving and developing Soviet-U.S. relations of the forthcoming meeting between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and U.S. President Carter, during which the new agreement between the USSR and the United States on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons will be endorsed and signed.

Questions of bilateral trade and economic links were also discussed. In this connection Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin reaffirmed that the Soviet Union consistently supports the development of these links on the principled basis of equality and mutual benefit without any type of discrimination or restrictions. This would not only bring practical benefits to both states but would also facilitate the overall positive development of relations between the USSR and the United States.

For their part, Forrestal and Giffen also noted the great importance of the forthcoming meeting between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and James Carter, and expressed the interest of U.S. business circles in improving relations between our countries, including the creation of normal conditions for mutually beneficial business links.

Taking part in the conversation were: Patolichev, minister of foreign trade; and Sushkov, deputy minister of foreign trade and cochairman of the Soviet-U.S. Trade and Economic Council.

BEIJING SAID DIGRESSING FROM DENG'S ECONOMIC COURSE

LD201430 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0001 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In Beijing, numerous conferences are in progress with the participation of Hua Guofeng, Deng Xiaoping and other high-ranking leaders, which are frantically seeking ways to stabilize the economy. A detailed examination is now being made of the disproportion in industry and agriculture. A lack of material assets is clearly being felt and the areas allotted for sowing have been significantly reduced.

The present situation has left its mark on the relations between the representatives of the ruling clique. In the process of the power struggle Deng Xiaoping's position has been weakened. The point is that, over the past 2 years, a new economic course has been implemented which was proclaimed by Deng. And now an attempt is being made to accuse him of adventurism of which, by the way, he himself quite recently accused the gang of four.

At present it is being said more and more rarely in China that Deng is the creator of the course in the sphere of the four modernizations--industry, agriculture, science and technology, and the military sphere. The chaos and disorder in which the Chinese economy now finds itself has led the Chinese to begin reexamining the basic indices for 1985. For example, in steel production they have been reduced by 10-15 million tons. Instead of calls for the improvement of a new great leap, the task being put forward initially is for a so-called regularization, for which, according to the most general calculations, about 3 years if required. The difficulties now besetting the Chinese economy have led to a reduction in the widely publicized purchases from the West of the latest equipment and the acquisition of modern technology. Earlier, it was calculated that China, up to 1985, would spend for these aims between $80 billion and $100 billion. Now talk has begun of $40 billion, or even $20 billion. But doubts are being expressed about even these figures.

Beijing is striving by all means possible to reassure its trade partners and present them with reliable guarantees. However, the facts bear witness to a different matter: Let us recall that about 30 Japanese companies have received from Beijing notification that, because of financial difficulties, China is suspending the agreements that were signed earlier. So far the path along which the foreign trade of China will proceed is not clear. But one thing can be said with certainty: Beijing is digressing from the economic plans of Deng, and from his plans to attract foreign capital to the country.

'DANGEROUS' EPIDEMIC AGAIN BREAKS OUT IN EAST CHINA

OW201842 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1000 GMT 20 May 79 OW

[Text] A dangerous epidemic has once again occurred in certain areas of east China. According to a report by the Zhejiang provincial broadcast station, a contingent of army doctors has been mobilized to participate in antiepidemic work. However, the epidemic is not positively identified in the report. Today epidemics frequently occur in China, especially in the rural areas. The extreme shortage of highly skilled doctors and health workers in China has made the antiepidemic work more difficult.

U.S. DECIDES TO POSTPONE TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM ROK

SK200939 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1130 GMT 17 May 79 SK

[Text] The United States has decided to postpone its plan to withdraw troops from South Korea. This has been officially announced by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Russell Sullivan. In this connection, commentator of this station (Golorev) writes as follows:

The presence of U.S. forces in South Korea has been the source of tension in this part of Asia and a major obstacle blocking the reunification of the country. Therefore, this recent statement by the Washington administration on holding up troop withdrawal from South Korea in abeyance [words indistinct]. But, as has been clearly exposed, this measure is nothing but a deception. This is a deceptive act to [words indistinct], turning away from clamorous public opinion of the world opposing the militaristic policy of the United States.

When the bill on the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea was presented, Defense Secretary Brown stressed that the troop withdrawal would be conducted over 5 years and that the withdrawal would be covered by increased U.S. military aid to Seoul. Afterward, this troop withdrawal bill was reviewed. When some U.S. forces were withdrawn from South Korea in November (?1978), U.S. military aid to the Seoul regime was increased. The U.S. Congress approved the transfer of $800 million worth of weapons to the Seoul regime, and it also approved a bill providing $250 million in military loans to the Seoul regime. According to reports in U.S. publications, the U.S. Government plans to provide $2,000 million in military aid to the South Korean regime in the future.

Seoul is also rushing to produce large amounts of weapons on its own. In South Korea, war hysteria is being escalated with frequent military exercises by army, naval and air force units.

According to a report in NODONG SINMUN this dangerous scheme is aimed at heightening tension in South Korea in order to delay the troop withdrawal from South Korea indefinitely. Washington's attempt to keep its forces in South Korea has been supported by Beijing. Although they advocate the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea in words, the Chinese leaders in fact act to the contrary. The Washington POST, a U.S. paper which has dependable sources, quoted an official U.S. Government spokesman as saying that Beijing does not oppose the presence of U.S. forces in South Korea at all. All of this heightens tension on the Korean Peninsula and has a negative effect on all situations in the Far East.

PRC, JAPANESE MILITARY OFFICIALS MEET IN TOKYO

LD181510 Moscow TASS in English 1300 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, May 18, TASS--Beijing is actively establishing cooperation with Japan in the military sphere and is using all kinds of "friendship missions" to cover up this cooperation. A Chinese vessel making a "cruise of friendship" to Japan sailed into the Tokyo port today. 600 Chinese came to Tokyo on board the vessel. They are led by Deputy Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, President of the Chinese-Japanese Friendship Society Liao Chengzhi. Among them is one of the top Chinese military leaders, Deputy Defence Minister of the PRC Su Yu.

KYODO TSUSHIN agency reports that immediately after the arrival in Tokyo Su Yu met with Chief of the Defence Agency of Japan G. Yamashita.

JIJI TSUSHIN agency, recalling the visit to Japan by Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the People's Liberation Army of China Zhang Caiqian in September of last year stresses that the meeting between Su Yu and Yamashita goes beyond the framework of a courtesy visit. Liao Chengzhi and Su Yu will be received also by Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira and Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda.

The Japanese democratic public condemns the aggressive hegemonistic course of the Beijing rulers and resolutely protests against Japan's cooperation in the military sphere with China which is striving to get from industrialized capitalist countries the latest equipment and technology to build up its armed forces and to implement its expansionist designs in Southeast Asia.

SOVIET MILITARY EXERCISES NEAR ETOROFU PROTESTED

OW190158 Tokyo KYODO in English 0009 GMT 19 May 79 OW

[Text] Moscow, May 18, KYODO--The Japanese Embassy here lodged a protest with the Soviet Foreign Ministry Friday on the Soviet plan to conduct firing practice in waters around Etorofu Island, off eastern Hokkaido, and the maritime province of Siberia between May 21 and 26. It demanded that the practice be cancelled.

The embassy said the areas around Etorofu Island include part of the Japanese territorial waters and there are fears that some 50 Japanese fishing ships operating in the area will suffer damage. It therefore said Japan will reserve the right to demand compensation.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry replied that it could not agree to the Japanese claim that part of the waters around Etorofu Island comprise Japanese territorial waters. It, however, promised that it would relay to quarters concerned the fears expressed by Japan on the safety of Japanese fishing boats.

'INVESTMENT WAR' BETWEEN JAPAN, TRADE PARTNERS WILL CONTINUE

LD172332 Moscow TASS in English 2125 GMT 17 May 79 LD

["Contradictions Remain"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, May 17, TASS--The investment policy of leading capitalist countries remains a constant source of aggravation of inter-imperialist contradictions. Japan's policy which in many respects determines the situation in the sphere of capital investments rivets a particularly close attention of Western economists.

The Finance Ministry's data which have been just issued in Tokyo indicate thet Japanese monopolies' direct investments abroad reached a record-high level in 1978, amounting to 4.5 billion dollars. At the same time foreign capital investments in Japan ran at not more than 200 million dollars over the period. Such a striking disproportion arouses a growing dissatisfaction of Japan's trading partners, first of all the USA and EEC countries which, unsuccessfully so far, demand that Tokyo balance its trade and investment policy and remove numerous barriers to foreign capital and goods. The Japanese side is unwilling to make concessions, and, as local observers point out, there is now no hope that the "investment war" will cease soon.

AFGHANISTAN'S TARAKI ADDRESSES TRIBAL LEADERS

LD201919 Moscow TASS in English 1646 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, May 20, TASS--The general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki described the April revolution of 1978 as a turning point in the contemporary history of Afghanistan and stressed that all the activities of the people's government are now directed at ensuring the vital interests of the working people. He spoke before representatives of the tribes populating the country's eastern provinces.

Nur Mohammad Taraki strongly rebuffed forces which under cover of the slogan of "defending Islam", make fierce attacks on the revolutionary gains of the Afghani people. The enemies of our revolution, the Afghani leader went on, are conducting their subversive activities from abroad, particularly from the territory of Pakistan. We have many times called for ending interference into our internal affairs, but it continues to this day. He stressed the need for unity of the entire people in the struggle against the machinations of forces hostile to it.

TARAKI COMMENTS ON PAKISTAN, REVOLUTION'S SUCCESSES

LD181217 Moscow TASS in English 1136 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, May 18, TASS--The USSR and India are our good and traditional friends. These two countries are interested in the establishment of peace in our region and in the whole world, an Indian journalist was told by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council Nur Mohammad Taraki. Touching on Afghanistan's relations with Pakistan, he stressed that if Pakistan does not violate Afghanistan's territorial integrity and follows a policy of peaceful coexistence, all problems can be settled, including the political differences between the two countries, on the basis of good will and in accordance with the aspirations of the peoples of both countries. Dwelling in detail on the successes achieved by the Afghan people in the year since the April revolution, Nur Mohammad Taraki noted that the agrarian reform is being carried out successfully in the country, the national question is being solved, this being evidenced by the elimination of tribal disputes, the rights of all nationalities to put out newspapers and to instruct children in schools in national languages are ensured. After the change in the class composition in the command echelon of the Afghan Army, Taraki went on, we can say with full confidence that the country's armed forces have really become popular armed forces and really protect the interests of working people. The handing over of political power in the country into the hands of the working class and the toiling peasantry has become the decisive gain of our revolution, he said.

AFGHAN PARTY POLITBURO DISCUSSES PARTY ORGANIZATION

LD191856 Moscow TASS in English 1817 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, May 19, TASS--A meeting of the Politburo of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan CC was held here. A report on the internal and international situation at the meeting was delivered by General Secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan CC, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan N.M. Taraki. According to a report of the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY, the members of the Politburo examined questions pertaining to the role and activity of primary party organizations.

COMMENT, REPORTAGE ON FIRST ROUND OF SRV-PRC TALKS

Talks at Impasse

LD191854 Moscow TASS in English 1832 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, May 19, TASS--TASS correspondent Aleksandr Mineyev reports from Hanoi: Even without asking the opinion of its Vietnamese counterparts, the Chinese side has completed at its own discretion the first round of the talks at the level of deputy foreign ministers on normalizing relations between the two countries. It was already during the meeting of the delegations yesterday, that a representative of the Chinese Embassy asked permission from the Vietnamese authorities for landing in Hanoi of a special plane for the departure of the PRC governmental delegation to Beijing.

What are the results of the five meetings held in Hanoi in the course of a month? No more or less significant progress has been achieved at the talks over that time. Tensions in relations between the two countries far from easing, have even increased. The danger of outbreak of a fresh military conflagration stays.

It became clear from the first meetings that the Chinese delegation arrived in Hanoi by no means for a quest of mutually acceptable ways for the settlement of relations, for preventing a new war, as it declared earlier, but for imposing its terms on Vietnam. At the first meeting, the SRV Government delegation put forward specific and realistic three point proposals directed at taking urgent measures for eliminating the dangerous seat of tension on the border. These proposals were described by the Chinese side as "not deciding the essence of the matter," and "unprincipled." The Chinese diplomats even refused to discuss them.

At the same time, the Chinese delegation brought its own "proposals". NHAN DAN, the newspaper of the Communist Party of Vietnam CC, aptly described them as "eight points of expansionism." And really the proposition of "opposition to hegemonism" for example, on which the main emphasis was laid, means with reference [as received] to Vietnam SRV's renunciation of independent foreign policy, of friendship and cooperation with the USSR and the other socialist countries, of internationalist aid to the brother peoples of Laos and Kampuchea. Thus, Beijing is trying to lecture a sovereign state how it should build relations with third countries. It has once again shown that one of the main causes of the Chinese aggression against the SRV was the collapse of the regime of Chinese henchmen in Kampuchea.

Such Beijing's demands as SRV's renunciation of sovereignty over the Paracel Islands and Spratly Archipelago, return to Vietnam of hundreds of thousands ethnic Chinese, who emigrated to China under the influence of Beijing propaganda and have been trained for subversive activity against the SRV are also unacceptable to any dignified nation.

The Chinese side arrogantly rejected Vietnam's proposal on dwelling upon the issues that can be settled already now, and leave for the subsequent meetings the problems, on which the views of the sides strongly diverge. Head of the Chinese delegation Han Nianlong declared that the talks could be continued only provided Vietnam agreed to the whole package of terms put forward by Beijing.

Displaying its goodwill, the Vietnamese delegation has agreed to accept the Chinese terms for the return of prisoners of war. It is the sole issue, on which agreement has been reached.

While the Chinese side was engaged in reiterating its "principled demands," the lack of settlement of such an "insignificant," in the opinion of the Chinese delegation, question as disengagement of troops and creation of a demiltarised zone has resulted in a further aggravation of the explosive situation on the border between the two countries. China continues massing its troops along the whole borderline, is building its military fortifications and communications. In the course of almost a month, while the talks were under way in Hanoi, armed provocations against the SRV were engineered on the border. Chinese aircraft repeatedly invaded the SRV's air space to a depth of down to 35 kilometres. As Phan Hien, head of the Vietnamese Government delegation said, at least a minimum of goodwill on China's part is necessary for progress of the talks. The Vietnamese people strives for peace and establishing neighbour relations with China. But it is resolved to upheld arms in hand its homeland's freedom and independent. [sentence as received]

Remarks by SRV Delegate

LD181228 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, May 18, TASS--The Chinese delegation at the Vietnamese-Chinese talks at the level of deputy foreign ministers today unilaterally announced that it will leave Hanoi shortly and proposed to hold the next round of the talks in Beijing, the VNA agency reports.

A press conference here was told by the head of the Vietnamese Government delegation Phan Hien that no progress whatsoever had been achieved after five meetings at the talks in Hanoi and that all responsibility for this rested with the Chinese side.

The essence of the great-power, hegemonic and expansionist policy of the Beijing leaders in respect of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, of countries of Southeast Asia is becoming ever more obvious, he stressed. The Vietnamese side resolutely rejects Beijing's lying concoctions about the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. China began the talks not for the purpose of jointly solving some issues, Phan Hien noted. Beijing used the talks solely for propaganda purposes in order to delude world public opinion. Vietnam's three-point proposals are concrete and just, he said. We are not forcing our viewpoint on the other side. Our aim is to move the talks off dead centre. The head of the Vietnamese Government delegation spoke of the danger posed by the continuing concentration of Chinese troops on the border with Vietnam and the constant provocations against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The Vietnamese people, he said, retains vigilance and is always ready to defend its motherland. But Vietnam, which strives for a peaceful solution of disputes, is also ready to continue the talks in the spirit of good will. We have on our side the firm unity of 50 million compatriots, we have the support and aid of the Soviet Union, of other socialist countries and progressive movements in the whole world. Vietnam wants peace and good relations with China. But Vietnam is an independent state and for this reason we declare that we will not give in to pressure, will not accept the absurd demands made by Beijing and will press for a constructive reply by the Chinese side to our just and real proposals.

SRV AMBASSADOR TO USSR HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

LD181734 Moscow TASS in English 1548 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 18, TASS--"We are moved that a number of countries and international organizations have taken timely measures to help the Vietnamese people in eliminating the consequences of the Chinese aggression", stated the ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the Soviet Union Nguyen Huu Khieu.

He was speaking at a press conference held here today at the SRV Embassy arranged for Soviet and foreign journalists. The Vietnamese people expressed particular gratitude, he said, to the fraternal Soviet people, which decided to give 75 percent of the assets resulting from holding a communist subbotnik to the relief fund for Vietnam, which has suffered as a result of China's aggression. Nguyen Huu Khieu exposed the savage atrocities during their aggressive war against Vietnam. A communique circulated at the press conference says that, according to preliminary data, the Chinese aggressors completely destroyed 4 cities, devastated 320 communes, wiped out 600,000 square meters of urban housing, leaving roofless more than 150,000 town dwellers, destroyed scores of thousands of peasant houses, the homes of 200,000 people. They destroyed 735 schools which catered to 180,000 schoolchildren, 691 kindergartens which catered to 140,000 children. Of 430 hospitals only two remain.

The grave crimes of the Chinese expansionists, the SRV ambassador said, laid bare before the whole world the essence of the Chinese top leaders as a most belligerent, treacherous and reactionary grouping. The Vietnamese people demands, Nguyen Huu Khieu stated, that the aggressors bear full responsibility for the damage inflicted on Vietnam by the war and make indemnification. By their actions, the ambassador noted, the Chinese aggressors grossly violated the Geneva Convention of August 18, 1949, on the protection of the civilian population during wartime.

Answering questions about the progress of the Vietnamese-Chinese negotiations, the SRV ambassador informed, that at the fifth meeting held today, the Chinese delegation unilaterally announced its intention to leave Hanoi shortly. As is known, the second round of the negotiations is to be held in Beijing. However, the ambassador pointed out, the head of the Chinese delegation named no concrete date for resuming the talks. By putting absurd demands to Vietnam, the Chinese side is actually trying to evade a discussion of the SRV's concrete and logical proposals and is deliberately dragging out the negotiations, the ambassador underlined. The journalists were presented with photographic documents describing the grave atrocities perpetrated by the Chinese military against the Vietnamese people.

VIETNAM TO PARTICIPATE IN 'INTERCOSMOS' PROGRAM

LD181322 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 18, TASS--The Socialist Republic of Vietnam became the 10th country participating in the Intercosmos programme, upon having acceeded to the "agreement on cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes," which was signed in Moscow on July 13, 1976, by Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia. In accordance with the understanding on joint flights of the citizens of the socialist countries participating in the Intercosmos programme on board Soviet spaceships and stations, candidate cosmonauts from the SRV began training at the Gagarin Centre for the Training of Cosmonauts.

KAMPUCHEA'S ROS SAMAY THANKS USSR FOR GIFTS

LD181738 Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, May 18, TASS--Medicines, fabrics, shoes, electric equipment and other goods were handed over to representatives of the People's Republic of Kampuchea at the port of Ho Chi Minh City.

Accepting the gift of the Soviet public organisations, Ros Samay, member of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, minister of the economy and social security, on behalf of the Kampuchean people expressed gratitude for the Soviet Union's support and help to People's Kampuchea.

BEIJING-BACKED REBELS IN BURMA SUFFER DEFEATS

LD181412 Moscow TASS in English 1143 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Rangoon, May 18, TASS--A mass demonstration of protest against sorties of groups of rebels that are in the upkeep of Beijing was held in the district center Mongyai situated in the north of the Shan National Region of Burma. The newspaper BATATAUNG reports that the demonstrators carried posters and chanted slogans condemning the actions of the Maoists who kill peaceful people and cause great damage to the country's economy. In the recent month manifestations of protest against sorties of rebels were held in the Shan, Karen, Kachin, and other national regions and districts of Burma. According to press reports, about 100,000 people took part in these demonstrations since the beginning of the year. The population of all areas of the country responded to the call of the Burma Socialist Programme Party to launch large-scale and intensive actions against the rebels, says the newspapers' editorial article. Unity and cohesion of the people guarantee that the anti-governmental movement will ultimately be crushed. Despite the assistance and support from Beijing, the Maoist gangs suffer defeats and have to retreat further north into districts adjoining China. During recent operations, rebels were driven out of Pegu and Irrawadi districts.

U San Yu, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Burma Socialist Programme Party, secretary of the State Council, when speaking a few days ago in front of party leaders and government executives of the Arakan National Region said that the positions of rebels in this area of Burma weakened considerably as a result of joint actions of the party bodies, administration and the army. He urged the party organs, people's councils and the army to continue the efforts to rout the subversive elements.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND

LD210842 Moscow TASS in English 0739 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 21, TASS--A delegation of the Soviet parliament led by Vice-President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Pavel Gilashviliy left here on Sunday. The delegation will make official visit to Australia and New Zealand at the invitation of parliaments of these countries.

YUGOSLAV AIDE HAILS ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC TIES WITH USSR

LD181459 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 May 79 p 5 LD

[A. F. Roganov interview with G. Ubiparip--date and place unspecified: "Fruitful Cooperation"]

[Text] G. Ubiparip, vice president of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, talks about the development of cooperation between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union:

A particularly important role is played in the successful development of Yugoslav-Soviet cooperation by the regular meetings and talks between the two countries' leaders, J. Broz Tito and L.I. Brezhnev. These meetings give a powerful impetus not only to the fruitful development of Yugoslav-Soviet relations but also to the further strengthening of our peoples' friendship.

As for our trade relations, it can be noted that trade between the two countries is approximately doubled from one 5-year period to the next. This is the best proof of the fruitfulness of our economic cooperation. The prospects are also good. In 1976-1980 the volume of mutual trade will increase 140 percent to exceed $14 billion. The realistic nature of these plans is indicated by results already achieved: Since the beginning of the current 5-year plan the volume of trade has approached $9 billion.

It is now difficult to find an economic sphere in which Yugoslavia does not cooperate with the Soviet Union. Ties are developing in machine building, construction, light industry and agriculture. During the 5-year plan a significant increase is planned in reciprocal deliveries of machines and equipment.

The quantitative growth in trade is accompanied by qualitative changes. In the current 5-year plan the volume of coproduction and specialization in industrial production will be quadrupled. A good example of the development of mutually advantageous ties in this direction is cooperation in the sphere of motor vehicle building. About 40 units and components manufactured by Yugoslav enterprises are used in Soviet Zhiguli and Kamaz vehicles produced in Togliatti and Naberezhnyye Chelny. In their turn, more and more Soviet cars and trucks are appearing every year on the roads of Yugoslavia.

Articles not formerly supplied by the two countries are now featured in reciprocal trade. In accordance with an agreement Yugoslavia has started production of various kinds of power equipment necessary for Soviet national economic needs. Deliveries of ferrous metallurgy products have reached a considerable volume. A main pipeline has recently been commissioned, by means of which natural gas from the USSR is supplied to Yugoslavia. In turn, 600,000 tons of bauxite will be sent to Soviet enterprises annually.

In a word, our economic cooperation is improving constantly, being enriched by new forms.

We also attach great significance to the development of scientific and technical ties between the two countries. Yugoslav and USSR specialists have outlined more than 150 topics on which it is proposed to implement mutually advantageous ties through 1990. Recently, joint work on various problems by organizations in the two countries has developed widely. Thus a hybrid computer complex has been created which in some of its characteristics surpasses the best world models. It can be used to resolve various tasks in energy, chemicals, petrochemicals, biology and medicine, communications and electronics, and so forth.

In a word, good results have been achieved in Yugoslav-Soviet economic, scientific and technical cooperation. However, considerable potential exists for further expanding mutually advantageous ties in various spheres. In particular, contacts between scientists and specialists in agriculture could become an important avenue of cooperation.

I would like to stress that the development and strengthening of Yugoslav-Soviet relations is important not only for the peoples of our two countries; they have a much wider significance. Our good relations make a concrete contribution to the struggle for peace, active peaceful coexistence and to the cause of strengthening social progress and socialism.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON SFRY'S TITO VISIT TO SOVIET UNION

Visits Cosmonaut Training Center

LD191425 Moscow TASS in English 1139 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--Scientists, designers, engineers, workers of the Yuriy Gagarin Cosmonauts' Training Centre today accorded a warm and cordial welcome to Josip Broz Tito, president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, chairman of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. Josip Broz Tito laid flowers at the foot of the monument in memory to the pioneer of outer space, viewed the training scale-models of the Soyuz spaceship and the Salyut orbital station, which are used to train cosmonauts for flights, visited the museum of cosmonautics, laboratories and study rooms of the centre. General Georgiy Beregovoy and other cosmonauts dwelt on preparations for and execution of flights, scientific and national-economic objectives that cosmonautics is coping with.

Yugoslavs React to Talks

LD191820 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Here is Belgrade. Our correspondent Aleksandr Shakhin is at the microphone: The Soviet-Yugoslav summit talks have become an event of prime political importance in Yugoslavia. The present meeting between Comrades Brezhnev and Tito was the 12th. And as the paper POLITIKA writes, it has once again confirmed what has always been the norm--that is, the fact that these meetings are always pithy and open, and that they invariably serve the further development of Soviet-Yugoslav relations. The papers quote President Tito's words about Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's great personal contribution to the strengthening of mutual understanding and the development of all-round ties between our countries and parties.

The results of the political dialog in Moscow have been received with satisfaction in Yugoslavia. The well-known principles on which the relations between the two countries are being built were confirmed and new ways of cooperation in various spheres were outlined. The importance of the accords on big international problems of such importance as detente and disarmament is also being emphasized in Belgrade. I would like to say that the friendly atmosphere of the meeting itself has been noted in Yugoslavia, as well as the frank nature of the talks, which were full of mutual respect and trust. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's remark that the relations between the Soviet and Yugoslav peoples are characterized by deep sympathy and by the constant striving for broad cooperation, made a deep impression here.

Tito Departs Moscow

LD210818 Moscow TASS in English 0806 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 21, TASS--Josip Broz Tito, president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, president of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, left Moscow for home today. At Vnukovo Airport he was seen off by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Andrey Gromyko, members of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and by other officials. Josip Broz Tito has been in the Soviet Union on a friendly visit and for a brief rest at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

BREZHNEV TO LEAD DELEGATION TO HUNGARY THIS MONTH

LD191020 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] It has been announced here in Moscow that a Soviet party and government delegation led by President Brezhnev will go on a friendly visit to Hungary later this month at the invitation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, the Council of Ministers and Presidium of Hungary.

KOSYGIN TO PAY 'FRIENDLY VISIT' TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA SOON

LD181412 Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 18, TASS--Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, is to pay a friendly visit to Czechoslovakia in the coming days at the invitation of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the Czechoslovak Government.

GRISHIN GREETS KAPEK-LED CPCZ GROUP AT MOSCOW MEETING

LD201128 Moscow in Czech and Slovak to Czechoslovakia 1730 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Report on a friendship meeting held for the visiting Prague CPCZ Committee delegation led by Antonin Kapek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, at the Krasnyy Proletariy works in Moscow--date not given]

[Excerpts] Participants in the meeting welcomed with applause and cheering the Czechoslovak delegation led by Antonin Kapek; Czechoslovak Ambassador to the Soviet Union Cestmir Lovetinsky; and Viktor Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom [words indistinct]. The meeting was opened by secretary of the works party committee, (Viktor Tikhin). Viktor Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, then spoke:

[Grishin-begin recording in Russian, fading into Czech translation] The visit of the Prague CPCZ Committee delegation to Moscow is, just like other meetings between representatives of party and public organizations of our towns and their working collectives, evidence of the multilateral contacts between Soviet and Czechoslovak communists, and of the fraternal friendship between our peoples. [end recording]

Comrade Grishin emphasized that this friendship and cooperation is based on the unity of aims and tasks pursued by the CPSU and the CPCZ, and is developed on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. An important factor in the further deepening of Soviet-Czechoslovak relations, Grishin said, was the official and friendly visit to the CSSR of the Soviet party and government delegation led by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in 1978. Comrade Grishin described the efforts of the Moscow working people to successfully implement the 5-year plan and to transform the Soviet capital into a model communist city. The head of the Czechoslovak delegation, Comrade Antonin Kapek, who was cordially welcomed by those present, said:

[Kapek--Begin recording] Dear Moscow friends, workers of the Krasnyy Proletariy: Allow me, at the beginning of my address, to convey to you militant fraternal greetings from the working people of Prague and from the Prague No 6 borough, your sister district. [end recording] Comrade Kapek told the participants about the work of the Prague city party organization, about the successes of the Czechoslovak working people im implementing the tasks set by the 15th CPCZ Congress. He emphasized that the cooperation between the party organizations of the Soviet and Czechoslovak capitals is growing every year and producing great mutual benefit.

'NO OBSTACLES' SEEN TO BETTER RELATIONS WITH ALBANIA

LD201700 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[From the "Mailbag" program presented by Jo Adamov]

[Excerpt] (Peter Spazziano) of New Jersey asks what separates the USSR and Albania?

There are no obstacles to better relations between our countries, we feel, and we feel that the reinstatement of equal--of mutually advantageous cooperation between the Soviet Union and Albania would be in the interests of both our countries, in the interests of social progress, in the interests of peaceful cooperation in Europe as a whole. Today Albania sees where China has led them and they are breaking all that has connected them with China. They censured China's aggression in Vietnam. We hope that in time our relations with Albania will be the way they were before the end of the 1950's.

KRUCZEK-LED POLISH SEJM DELEGATION DEPARTS USSR

LD191728 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] A delegation of the Polish People's Republic Sejm headed by Kruczek, member of the Polish United Workers Party Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic and chairman of the Central Council of Trade Unions, left the Soviet Union today. The delegation had been in our country on an official friendship visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet. In an interview granted to the TASS correspondent on the last day of the visit, Kruczek noted that the visit had been extremely useful. Conversations at the USSR Supreme Soviet and meetings with Soviet people were fresh proof of the strength of the fraternal friendship between the peoples of Poland and the Soviet Union. He said: Our trip around the country gave us an opportunity to become more deeply acquainted with the USSR's economic and cultural achievements. The successes of the fraternal Soviet people in communist construction are truly enormous. Their strivings for peace on earth are also great.

SALT-II SHOULD BE SUPPLEMENTED BY EUROPEAN SECURITY ACCORDS

LD181400 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Vladislav Kozyakov commentary]

[Text] A very important question of strengthening European security arises now when the SALT-II talks are about to come to their final completion. The question is: What should be done to further achieve military relaxation on the continent? As is known, there is an understanding between the Soviet Union and the United States after the signing of SALT-II and its coming into force, to proceed to SALT-III negotiations. Their aim will be to insure not only the limitation but also the reduction of nuclear armaments by both sides.

But besides that there are several other issues of consolidating peace in Europe which still remain to be solved. And now the favorable conditions created by the success of the SALT-II talks should be used to settle these issues. Without any delay, concrete and effective steps should be taken by joint efforts of all countries that participated in the Helsinki security conference. Such is the position of the socialist countries. This week the Warsaw Treaty states have put forward a number of new proposals on that score. Those were prepared at the Foreign Ministers Committee meeting held in Budapest. In their communique the socialist nations suggest convening a conference this year with the participation of all countries in Europe, the United States and Canada to discuss concrete steps toward consolidating trust between the nations of Europe and easing military confrontation on the continent. The Warsaw Treaty countries also propose to all the participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to sign a treaty that will repudiate the first use of armaments against one another, both nuclear and conventional. The Foreign Ministers Committee meeting in Budapest has once again confirmed all the proposals previously made by the Warsaw Treaty countries, and it has also expressed readiness to carefully examine any other suggestions aimed at strengthening mutual trust and insuring military relaxation. In other words, the socialist nations welcome the expected conclusion of the SALT-II talks and they regard it as a stimulus to undertaking immediate measures to further strengthening peace in Europe.

Unfortunately, this cannot be said about the NATO countries' approach to the present situation on the continent. The current sessions of various NATO bodies in Brussels have expressed their satisfaction regarding the SALT-II talks. But if you look at actions and decisions taken in Brussels, you will notice they are directed at further increasing the dangerous arms race. For example, NATO's Defense Planning Committee decided to extend their commitment for a 3 percent annual increase in NATO's military spending to 1986. Besides, the defense ministers agreed to raise (?the fund) for the construction of military installations to $4.5 billion within the next 5 years. They also decided to start modernizing nuclear forces in Europe. Under this plan, medium-range nuclear weapons spearheaded against the Soviet Union and its allies will be deployed on the continent. It is not surprising therefore that the NATO countries have not yet replied to the Warsaw Treaty nations' compromise proposals for talks on reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe. The proposals were submitted as far back as June 1978. Today the Vienna talks are being reviewed, but there is still no NATO response to the socialist nations' initiative.

The SALT-II understanding is not an isolated fact. It is a major step in the world-wide process of easing international tensions, stopping the arms race and bringing about disarmament. The SALT-II should be supplemented by concluding other far-reaching agreements on consolidating peace.

Among them should be accords on reducing the level of military confrontation in Europe. Of course, to achieve this goal, efforts by both sides are needed, as in the case of the SALT-II talks.

'URGENT PROBLEM' OF EUROSTRATEGIC WEAPONS EXAMINED

LD210819 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 May 79 p 1 LD

[Daniil Proektor "International Review: "Europe and Security"]

[Text] Today mankind has no loftier or more crucial task than that of halting the arms race, which has assumed truly global dimensions in our day and has become a peril unprecedented in human history. It not only hangs over all peoples of the world, but the shadow of the threat of war extends also to future generations.

This question is particularly acute in Europe--the continent which in our century alone has been swept by two war hurricanes of unprecedented force, taking the lives of tens of millions of people. The tactical nuclear weapons now placed in Europe alone surpass many times over the explosive power of the weapons used during the entire 6 years of World War II.

The Soviet Union has frequently stated that it is ready to support any initiatives aimed at restraining the arms race. The position of the land of the soviets on this issue has been frequently formulated in precise and clear terms in a whole series of speeches by Soviet party and government leaders. It is reflected in numerous Soviet initiatives, proposals and documents submitted to the broadest of international forums. This is a fact that the whole world knows. It is known that the Soviet Union's approach to the solution of this problem is of a comprehensive, all-embracing nature. While advocating total disarmament, the USSR at the same time also seeks opportunities for partial, intermediate measures.

Thanks to the persistent struggle of the Soviet Union and all peace-loving forces against the threat of war on the European Continent, peace has been preserved for 34 years now. It is precisely to a considerable extent under the influence of the policy of the USSR and the other socialist countries and with the support of realistically minded circles in the West that the political climate in Europe has taken a marked turn for the better in recent years. The changes here can be seen in many things. But the Soviet Union does not underestimate the difficulties on the path of the consolidating peace and the peoples' security. Therefore our country proceeds from the premise that the foremost task now is to extend detente to the military sphere. This is all the more essential in that NATO is frantically building up its armaments, complicating the situation in Europe. The military-industrial complexes in Europe and their political minions are trying to hinder the detente process. Referring to the "Soviet threat" they have invented, they are demanding that ever new billions be earmarked for military purposes and that increasingly destructive and savage types of weapons be created.

The question of "Eurostrategic" weapons has recently been a topic of diverse discussions in the West European countries' press, parliaments and military circles. It is characteristic that besides a businesslike approach to this urgent problem, attempts in the West to turn the problem into one of the subjects of anti-Soviet propaganda can also be discerned. As M. Woerner, the military expert of the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union, recently stated in the West German Bundestag, the Soviet Union henceforth "is capable of ruling the entire Eurasian area," and this, he claimed, represents "a threat to West Europe's security unless countermeasures are taken."

What is suggested as countermeasures? To build and place in West Europe and above all on FRG territory on a priority basis the U.S. Pershing-2 missiles, other sophisticated medium-range ballistic nuclear missiles and cruise missiles, and to commission new military aircraft. "Time is short," opposition leader H. Kohl states in panic in the Bundestag.

There is nothing new in statements of this kind aimed at fueling the myth that some sort of "threat" to Europe exists. The opponents of detente have long been trying to "justify" the policy of stepping up the arms race by referring to the "danger from the East." But here they try to keep quiet about the fact that the real threat to Europe is created by the activity of certain circles in the West.

It is worth recalling that back in 1948, that is soon after the end of the war, U.S. strategic bombers were stationed in Britain, laying the foundation for the creation of what W. Churchill called "an enormous and ever-expanding military air base for the use of nuclear weapons against Soviet Russia." Then, in the fifties, a system of U.S. bases with over 150 airfields was put together and supplemented by the U.S. 6th Fleet, specially formed in the Mediterranean.

The next step was Western Europe's transformation in the fifties into NATO's military arsenal and bridgehead against the socialist half of Europe and the transformation of the FRG's territory into "a ship stuffed with weapons," as one West German parliamentarian recently put it. Hundreds of aircraft were stationed here--nuclear bomb carriers, Matador strike fighters, guns, Corporal missiles, and other nuclear weapon delivery vehicles. U.S. Thor and Jupiter medium-range missiles were placed at British bases. At its depots in Western Europe the United States stockpiled "tactical" nuclear warheads whose numbers very rapidly reached 7,500. Then U.S. bases for nuclear-powered missile-carrying submarines appeared in Europe. In the sixties this entire "Eurostrategic" arsenal was being constantly and rapidly perfected. Finally Britain tested a hydrogen bomb and bought U.S. Polaris missiles...

This was precisely how the potential of the "Eurostrategic" weapon, whose history, like history in general, must never be underestimated or forgotten, was created. The distinguishing features of this potential, the Western press reports, are its massiveness and diversity. NATO's "Eurostrategic" weapons now include a large quantity of the most diverse weapons concentrated on a broad front from Norway to Turkey.

Those are the facts. And many responsible, sensible politicians in the West realize this. Recently arguing with Bundestag opposition leader H. Kohl over "medium-range weapons," FRG Chancellor H. Schmidt rejected the opinion that this is "a completely new problem." He said" "This problem does not date from yesterday.... I described it back in 1969. What you are suggesting on this issue is not a debate on world strategy but provincialism."

In his speech at the 2 March 1979 meeting with the voters Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, stressed: "As for the Soviet Union, it has already stated frequently that it stands not for the buildup but for the limitation of nuclear missiles or other weapons through the sides' agreement on the basis of full reciprocity. This also applies to medium-range weapons in Europe--with consideration, of course, for the presence of U.S. bases there. Our common position with the fraternal socialist states on this core was recently reflected again in the Warsaw Pact countries' Moscow declaration: This is the only sensible way of resolving an urgent problem. The sooner this realistic viewpoint prevails in the West, the more rapidly Europe will be able to actually materialize the tasks of military detente.

OUTCOME OF SOVIET-FRENCH SUMMIT IMPORTANT STEP FOR EUROPE

LD182324 Moscow in French to Europe 1730 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Here is a commentary by our observer Yuriy Malin: Although more than 3 weeks have passed already since the meeting in Moscow between Leonid Brezhnev and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, the results of the meeting are still attracting the attention of many Soviet and foreign observers. This is understandable. The outcome of the meeting and the documents signed there are another important step in the development of cooperation between the two countries and the attainment of entente between the USSR and France on the major problems of international life.

It is true that this cooperation and entente do not please certain bourgeois papers in the West, including in France. On reading certain Western newspapers, one would think that there is nothing new in Soviet-French relations; they did not bother to publish the documents signed at the meeting, while in the USSR all major newspapers with circulations of tens of millions of copies have fully printed the texts. Some publications even dare to speak aboutmodest (?overall results) in order to play down the agreements reached in Moscow and the role and significance of Soviet-French cooperation in the settlement of international problems.

This pessimistic growling does not reflect the appreciation given to Soviet-French relations either by French official circles or by the Soviet side. In a statement to the press, Leonid Brezhnev has said: The Soviet-French relations which are developing on a firm and lasting basis have a great future. Cooperation between the USSR and France contributes to the lessening of the threat of war, the strengthening of detente and international security.

In fact, it is unlikely that the program of development of cooperation between the USSR and France for the benefit of peace and detente could have been signed on 28 April if the two countries had not had much experience in the joint (?settlement) of international questions, if there had not been sufficient examples of fruitful actions directed toward the development of fruitful bilateral cooperation as well as toward the maintenance of universal peace.

It is sufficient to recall the principles of cooperation between the USSR and France--countries with different social system--in their joint actions aimed at insuring security in Europe, and their joint positions--or convergent positions--on the problem of the Middle East, and so on.

The above-mentioned program was described by Leonid Brezhnev as new (?words) in the practice of international relations, devoted to the most important task and the most urgent one, to prevent a new war. The two countries have not only noted the urgent character of this task, they also solemnly declared that they will do everything possible to relieve humanity of the threat of war. Having declared themselves in favor of detente as the only way of peaceful relations between states, the USSR and France have committed themselves to make energetic efforts to prevent and eliminate the hotbeds of tension and settle pending international problems. The program lists the concrete steps that our countries are ready to take to guarantee a firm and lasting peace.

Peace, detente, mutually advantageous cooperation; is this not what humanity needs in order to regain its calm and trust in the future? Our two countries see opening up before them a wide field of activities in this context.

The USSR and France have contributed much to launch cooperation in Europe, a continent where there are two military alliances face to face and where the NATO countries are pursuing the very perilous arms race.

The recent decisions of the North Atlantic bloc regarding the continuous increase of military expenditures and the war potential under the fallacious pretext of defending themselves against a threat from the Warsaw Pact are a concrete confirmation of the above. What threat and from whom can there be since the members of the Warsaw Treaty have just drafted new proposals on the need to end the arms race and have put forward resolutely concrete measures of disarmament, especially in the nuclear field? This is what we read in the communique of the Foreign Ministers Committee of this Pact's member countries.

These proposals contain about 20 concrete ideas: the final banning of the use of nuclear arms and the refusal by all states to use threat or employ force in their mutual relations; the adoption of measures likely to strengthen the guarantees of security of non-nuclear states; the need to reduce military expenditures; stopping the growth of forces and equipment in territories of other countries; and the signing of appropriate agreements for the elimination of the threat of war. In short, it was exactly the Warsaw Treaty countries that have taken new measures for the completion of political detente in Europe, for military detente. Let us recall that the USSR has put forward more than 70 concrete proposals on disarmament. Thus the security of the peoples has gained tangible results and promising initiatives. Important problems linked with ending the arms race are today the subject of international negotiations. The Disarmament Committee is working in Geneva. France's decision to take part in its activities is to be welcomed just as much as the agreement laid down in the Soviet-French document to cooperate within this committee to insure progress in stopping the arms race and in disarmament.

Work so that detente in Europe becomes irreversible! This is the task of all who are concerned by it. It is naturally the task of the USSR and France--countries which have been the first to take this path--to develop their experiences for the future of European peace. The forthcoming Madrid meeting of the participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe can make a considerable contribution to this. Let us (?work) to make this Madrid meeting the start of positive and concrete steps aimed at fully implementing the principles and provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, including the energetic measures of military detente and the development and widening of equal and mutually advantageous cooperation in various fields.

Our two countries have committed themselves to making a constructive contribution to the preparation of the Madrid meeting, expressing the wish that this meeting should be a success. The implementation of the agreements reached in Moscow opens up before the USSR and France new horizons of cooperation for the good of the peoples of our two countries and of the whole world.

VANCE TALKS IN UK TO 'LEGALIZE' JOINT SUPPORT FOR RHODESIA

LD201420 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0310 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vsevolod Shishkovskiy]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Vance leaves for London today to discuss with the new Conservative government the question of recognizing Muzorewa's puppet government in Rhodesia and the lifting of the economic sanctions introduced by the United Nations against the Salisbury regime.

These talks have been preceded by eloquent speeches both in Britain and the United States. For example, Prime Minister Thatcher did not hide her desire, either before or after the elections, to remove the obstacles to trade with Rhodesia. Special British envoy Duff is holding talks in Salisbury with the head of the racists, Ian Smith, and his henchman Bishop Muzorewa. Judging by the latter's acknowledgements, the talks are proceeding successfully. The fact that the U.S. Senate has adopted a resolution demanding that President Carter lift the economic sanctions against Rhodesia is also significant. These events will undoubtedly influence the outcome of the talks between Vance and his British colleague, Carrington. It is quite obvious that the United States and Britain are not so much concerned with a just solution to the Rhodesian problem as with the desire to legalize as soonas possible their close ties with the Rhodesian regime.

Vance Arrives London

LD210630 Moscow TASS in English 0556 GMT 21 May 79 LD

[Text] London, May 21, TASS--Secretary of State of the United States Cyrus Vance has arrived here with [as received] an official visit for talks with the new British Government. This is the first visit by a high-placed American statesman to the British Isles after the coming to power of the Conservative Party. The talks open today with a meeting between Cyrus Vance and Secretary for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Carrington.

SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES IN LONDON FOR TALKS

LD202345 Moscow World Service in English 2108 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Text] The Soviet minister of foreign trade, Nikolay Patolichev, has arrived in London for talks with his British counterpart, John Nott, and representatives of the country's business community. Nikolay Patolichev will attend the opening ceremony at a Soviet national exhibition on Wednesday.

SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY HOLDS PLENUM IN CORDOBA

LD191307 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Madrid, May 19, TASS--A plenary meeting of the Central Committee of Spain's Communist Party has opened in Cordoba, in the south of Spain. For three days the participants in the plenary meeting presided over by Dolores Ibarruri, the chairman of the Communist Party, will discuss such problems as invigoration of the party's political activity, support to the communists working at local government bodies, activities and the role of the parliamentary faction of the Communist Party. The plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Spain is held for the first time outside Madrid. The decision to hold it in Corboda was taken because a member of the Spanish Communist Party had been elected mayor of the Administrative Centre of Cordoba for the first time ever in the whole history of the existence of the Communist Party of Spain.

PORTUGUESE CP CONGRESS TO PROPOSE 'DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE'

LD181136 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 2100 GMT 17 May 79 LD

[Excerpts] The Ninth Congress of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP] will begin in 2 weeks.

It is not an exaggeration to say that this congress will be a major event in the country's political life, writes Radio Moscow observer Yuriy Aleksin. The interest surrounding the PCP congress both domestically and abroad is even more [word indistinct] due to the fact that Portugal is going through a period of crisis.

In the forefront of the country's political life are problems affecting the most vital interests of all Portuguese--the future of democracy and the revolutionary gains. The draft theses for the Ninth PCP Congress state that in the present situation--faced with the continuous advance of reaction--the PCP is the only major political force consistently leading the struggle to defend the gains of the April revolution and the democratic regime, enshrined in the new Constitution. This is the reason, the theses point out, why strengthening the PCP is a necessary condition for defending and continuing the democratization of Portugal's national life.

Throughout its history the PCP has demonstrated that it is a truly national party, dedicated to the country's working people and defending the interests of all democratic forces. The Portuguese communists, who for half a century fought a difficult struggle against fascism and reaction, played an important role in toppling the fascist regime. Even the communists' opponents acknowledge that the selfless struggle of the PCF laid the conditions for the victorious revolt of 25 April 1974.

The Portuguese people and their friends abroad know that the communists, who fought against fascism, will defend to the end the revolutionary gains. Leading the PCP are leaders molded in antifascist struggle. They went to prison, were subjected to fascist hard labor, and still they remained faithful to the cause of defending democracy. Such leaders are Alvaro Cunhal, Octavio Pato, Sergio Vilarigues, Antonio Dias Lourenco, Antonio Gervasio, Emilio Esteves and many others.

The Ninth PCP Congress theses state that the PCP proposes to all Portuguese, to all democrats, a platform for a democratic alternative consisting of four fundamental points: to insure liberty and political democracy; to insure economic restoration and development based on the revolutionary gains; to raise the spiritual and material level of the people's lives; and to undertake a foreign policy of national independence.

W. BERLIN CP DELEGATION VISITS USSR ORGANIZATIONS 14-19 MAY

LD200917 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1810 GMT 19 May 79 LD

["Delegations of West Berlin Communists in USSR"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 19 May, TASS--A delegation of activists from the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin headed by (K.D. Hasier) has acquainted itself with CPSU cultural policy during a visit to the USSR 14-19 May at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The West German guests held talks in the CPSU Central Committee Culture Department, the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, the Central Council of USSR Trade Unions and with representatives of the creative intelligentsia.

The members of the delegation noted that they were deeply impressed by the all-round flourishing of socialist culture in the USSR and the purposeful work being carried out by the CPSU party organizations in the communist education of Soviet people.

MEDITERRANEAN SOCIALIST PARTIES CONFERENCE ENDS IN ATHENS

LD200200 Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT 19 May 79 LD

["Interests of Peace"--TASS headline]

[Text] Athens, May 19, TASS--A conference of socialist parties and progressive organizations of Mediterranean countries has ended here. In documents which were adopted its participants--representatives of 32 parties and organizations from 16 countries--have declared against the build-up of imperialist military presence in that area of the world, called for the pooling of actions in the struggle for peace and security. Strongly denounced were the actions of the United States and NATO which aggravate tension in the Mediterranean and interfere into affairs of the Mediterranean states. The conference demanded elimination of foreign military bases on Mediterranean shores, denounced the NATO attempts to draw Greece into the military organization of that aggressive bloc, to intensify the role of Turkey in the southern flank of the North-Atlantic alliance and to turn Cyprus into a large NATO base, spearheaded against progressive forces in the Middle East. The documents emphasise the need of implementation of the U.N. resolutions on Cyprus which envisage the strengthening of unity and territorial integrity of the state of Cyprus and withdrawal of foreign troops from its territory. The participants in the forum stigmatized the Egyptian-Israeli separate collusion, the expansionist policy of Israel and the traitorous course of As-Sadat who helps strengthen in the Middle East the positions of imperialism and who assumes the role of its gendarme in that area of the world. The conference denounced Beijing's aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and pointed out that it imperils international peace. Decisions of the conference point to the need of political, economic and social cooperation between the Mediterranean countries, expansion of cooperation of the progressive forces of the Mediterranean area with socialist countries. The democratic press regards the results of the forum as a major contribution to the struggle of the progressive anti-imperialist forces for an end to the arms race, for the deepening of detente, for safeguarding peace, for national independence and all-round cooperation.

SWISS LABOR PARTY VETERANS DELEGATION IN USSR 29 APR-10 MAY

LD170809 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 May 79 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--A delegation of Swiss Labor Party [PDA] veterans was in the Soviet Union 29 April through 10 May at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. In Moscow, Leningrad and Volgograd the Swiss comrades familiarized themselves with the activity of the CPSU party organizations in implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and with the Soviet working people's life. They attended the May Day demonstration by the capital's working people in Red Square and took part in events marking Victory Day.

The delegation visited the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and V.I. Lenin's apartment in the Kremlin.

The veterans of the fraternal party responded warmly to the hospitality accorded them and to their meetings with veterans of the Great October Socialist Revolution and Great Patriotic War. They assessed highly the achievements in the USSR's social and economic development and noted the CPSU's concern to improve the Soviet people's welfare and cultural standard. The PDA delegation particularly noted the Soviet Union's leading role in the struggle to strengthen peace throughout the world.

TASS ASSAILS 'PIRATIC ESSENCE' OF ISRAEL'S WEST BANK POLICY

LD182046 Moscow TASS in English 1900 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 15, TASS--TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev reports:

The Israeli Cabinet approved this Thursday a plan for the so-called autonomy of the Arab people of Palestine on the Israel-occupied Western Bank of the Jordan River and in the Gaza Strip. The authors of the plan, whose principal mastermind is Prime Minister Menachem Begin, do not even attempt to conceal the frankly aggressive character of Tel Aviv's policy vis-a-vis the Arab lands and the Palestinians.

As seen from this plan, all the land and water resources of the Palestinian Arabs on the Western Bank of the Jordan River and in the Gaza Strip are to be [words indistinct] (?under) Israeli control with the simultaneous continuation of Jewish settlement in these areas and construction of militarized Israeli settlements there. As to the notorious "autonomy" for the Palestinians, it will be exercised by the Israeli Military Administration with the help of its armed forces. This "autonomy", the Israeli leaders explain, will be granted only to the inhabitants--Palestinians--but not to their land.

The piratic essence of Tel Aviv's policy is expressed with particular cynicism in the special declaration supplementing the plan of the so-called "administrative self-government" of the Palestinians, which proclaims that in the future Israel would oppose the creation of an independent Palestinian state. Moreover, Tel Aviv would reassert its claims to the occupation of the Western Bank and Gaza after the five-year "transition period" to autonomy, mandated by the separate Israeli-Egyptian "peace treaty".

Thus, the aggressor has cast off the mask of a peace-maker and revealed himself to world public opinion as an outright aggressor, usurper and oppressor of the Arab people of Palestine. It goes without saying that the Israeli-Egyptian separate deal, concluded with Washington's active participation, gives a free hand to the Israeli aggressors and only increases their militaristic appetites. The plan of so-called autonomy for the Palestinians pursues the purpose of doing away with the lawful national rights of the Arab people of Palestine to selfdetermination and creation of their own independent state. This plan has the purpose of perpetuating the Israeli occupation of the Western Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip. In implementing this aggressive policy the Israeli leaders rely on the active support of As-Sadat's regime and their friends in Washington.

New Plan for West Bank

LD182131 Moscow TASS in English 2110 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Excerpt] New York, May 18, TASS--An Israeli ministerial commission, set up for the specific purpose of elaborating the final project of so-called "administrative autonomy" for the population of the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Sector, approved proposals on this matter by the Israeli Premier Begin. The project will be submitted for the deliberations of the Egyptian delegation at negotiations at Beersheba, which are to start on May 25. It envisages not the withdrawal of the aggressor's troops from the West Bank and the Gaza Sector, but their concentration in a number of "reinforced areas". "Security" will be fully under Israeli control and Israel will retain the right to set up new para-military settlements and to priority utilisation of water resources. The so-called "Palestine Councils" will be given the role of mere executioners of the orders issued by the Israeli authorities.

Characteristically, having approved Begin's projects, the ministerial commission adopted a statement stressing Israel's firm intention to prevent the creation of a Palestine state and to claim sovereignty over the West Bank and the Gaza Sector. This is testimony that Israel is toughening up its position still more.

Tel Aviv's expansionist designs were stressed once again by Begin, who stated today that Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai in exchange for peace with Egypt does not mean that the precedent will spread to other territories occupied by Israel. In other words, Begin is offering the Arabs a "peace" that would legalise the seizure of ancient Arab lands.

MOSCOW SEES 'COINCIDENCE' IN DAYAN, MUBARAK TOURS TO ASIA

LD192044 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Israeli foreign minister, Moshe Dayan, made a tour of a number of countries in South and Southeast Asia recently. In Nepal, Burma, Thailand and Singapore he alleged that the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty was a big diplomatic achievement opening a new chapter in the history of international relations in the Middle East. He also alleged that the Israeli-Egyptian deal had been welcomed by the wise sections of the world public, including the public of the countries he visited.

But observers in Asia interpret Dayan's statement as an attempt to put a good face on the matter. It is also noted that the tour itself was undertaken to extricate Tel Aviv from the political isolation in which it found itself abroad. It is also indicative that Dayan's voyage coincided with a trip to some Southeast Asian countries by Egyptian Vice President Mubarak. This coincidence was not accidental. [sentence as heard] It is clear from Mubarak's statements that both Cairo and Tel Aviv try to find a way out of the [words indistinct] political crisis which resulted from the policy of surrender of President as-Sadat who betrayed the interests of the Arab nation fighting their just struggle against the aggressor. This is borne out in part by the termination of diplomatic relations with Egypt by many Arab countries.

Such a sharp negative reaction to the Israeli-Egyptian treaty by many states, including the supply of [word indistinct] oil to the United States, couldn't but disturb the Washington administration, the sponsors of the deal. Observers believe it was Washington that orchestrated the diplomatic actions of Cairo and Tel Aviv to insure at least a minimum of support abroad for the separate treaty.

It is also significant that in every country he visited Moshe Dayan publicly stressed that Israel was interested in establishing diplomatic relations with China and made it directly clear that Beijing welcomed the peace treaty between Cairo and Tel Aviv. Clearly, that was an attempt to add China to the scarce ranks of the supporters of the deal and play the China card advantageously. Despite the broad publicity given to the trips by Dayan and Mubarak, the political results of these initiatives quite apparently look more than modest. The reaction to the Egyptian-Israeli treaty in the capitals they visited was rather restrained and the Indian Government, as the (?PRESS ASIA INTERNATIONAL) has reported, flatly rejected Dayan's request for a stopover in Delhi to meet an Indian leader on his way from Katmandu.

The result of the tours by Dayan and Mubarak show once again that the wide sections of the world public reject As-Sadat's conciliatory course to appease the aggressor.

TIMOSHKIN REFUTES AS-SADAT ON EGYPTIAN-SOVIET RELATIONS

LD182148 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary]

[Text] In his speech at Al-Buhayrah Province, President as-Sadat talked about the prospects of Egyptian-Soviet relations. He said: There is nothing that can prevent us from being friends with the Soviet Union except the attitude of the Soviet Union toward us. The Egyptian president tried to accuse the Soviet Union of being the one that is responsible for the present abnormal state of Egyptian-Soviet relations. I say abnormal state, because for a number of years I have seen the level these relations reached in the sixties. They were relations of true friendship and cooperation between our two countries and peoples.

I would like to point out immediately that these relations were so deeply rooted that, personally, I could not imagine they could be erased from the conscience of the Egyptians or the Soviets.

The last time I was in Egypt was 2 years ago. I cannot say that the Egyptian leadership at that time had been trying to create a favorable atmosphere for the development of friendly relations with the Soviet Union. Just the opposite was the case. But despite this, most Egyptians of all walks of life, including the prosperous, were embarrassed by the campaign of hostility toward the Soviet Union which official Egyptian propaganda had been pursuing and still pursues quite regularly. In their conversations with me, Egyptians used to say quite frankly that they did not share the views of the authors of the campaign. They also used to tell me that they hold the best of feelings toward the Soviet people.

Thousands of Egyptians lived and worked side by side with the Soviets. They got to know them very well. They were brought together by ties of friendship. Until now, Soviet citizens had been working on some projects which are being built in Egypt, and through their persistent work proving the truth of their friendly feelings toward the Egyptians.

But, regrettably, most Egyptian people today are deprived of the ability to express their real opinion on this or that issue without the feat of being exposed to the persecution of the authorities. I can cite here the names of scores of Egyptians who talked to us and who expressed genuine regret at the bad relations between their country and the Soviet Union. But I am not going to mention their names so that the law will not molest them.

President as-Sadat alleges that the Soviet Union's attitude prevents the development of friendship between Egypt and the Soviet Union. The president clearly hints at some unfriendly attitude, but nothing of the kind exists or can exist in the Soviet attitude toward Egypt and its great people. The Soviet people and leaders always stand alongside the just cause of the Egyptian people who achieved freedom and national independence in a stubborn struggle. They made great sacrifices in the struggle against Israel's Zionist and imperialist aggression. For this reason, the Soviet Union cannot but express a negative attitude to the policy of the Egyptian leadership which, in the view of the majority in the Arab world and outside, conflicts with the national aspirations and vital interests of the people of the Nile Valley. The Soviet Union cannot look indifferently on the fact that Egypt, which used to be the leader of the Arab world, has today become--as a result of Cairo's current separatist policy--alone in front of the imperialist and Zionist bloc which dictates its will on Egypt.

Finally, the Soviet Union cannot but reply in an appropriate way to the actions of official Cairo which complicate relations between the two countries.

AS-SADAT PLANS TO CALL CONFERENCE ON JERUSALEM

LD200515 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Our correspondent Kim Gerasimov reports from Cairo:

[Gerasimov--begin recording] During his trip to the governates in the Nile Delta, the most populated part of the country, President as-Sadat of Egypt made a statement which the local press immediately advertised widely. He announced that he intended proposing the calling of a conference of the heads of the Islamic states and governments to discuss the problem of Jerusalem. According to the Egyptian president this problem could, he claimed, be solved the same way that Egypt managed to obtain an agreement on Sinai, in other words, on the basis of the Camp David agreements, which have been decisively condemned by the majority of the Arab countries. Arab observers recall that the separate treaty between Egypt and Israel, which was concluded with the direct participation of the United States, undermined the joint efforts of the Arab countries which were directed at achieving an all-embracing just and peaceful settlement in the Near East. They note that Israel considers the return of Sinai to Egypt as payment for the latter's departure from the all-Arab front. They stress that at the same time Israel is in no way planning to withdraw from the occupied West Bank of the Jordan or from East Jerusalem.

The Begin government has stated again and again that it will never permit the existence of an independent Palestinian state anywhere in Palestine. The majority of the Arab countries believe that the attempts to solve the problem of the occupied lands including East Jerusalem on the basis of the Camp David agreements will only lead to a strengthening of Israel's occupation. [end recording]

GROWING DISCONTENT IN EGYPTIAN ARMY REPORTED

LD182143 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Rafael Aruyunov]

[Text] Arab newspapers have been publishing reports pointing out the growing discontent in the Egyptian Army. The Amman AD-DUSTUR said that a number of Egyptian Army units refused to obey the orders of the command as a protest against the signing of the separate treaty with Israel. For example, not long ago, a large number of officers were discharged or transferred to other sectors.

It is known that the high command of the armed forces, including the defense minister and the chiefs of the General Staff, have been changed many times during the present Egyptian regime. Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili, who during the October 1973 war was the chief of the General Staff, accused the present Egyptian leadership openly of betraying the interests of the country and the entire Arab nation.

Arab newspapers say that the Egyptian Army which made many sacrifices in the struggle against Israeli aggression and expansion, most certainly was not happy to see the As-Sadat regime turn friends into enemies and enemies into friends. Other reports say that the Egyptian authorities are resorting to the CIA and the Israeli intelligence to uncover and root out discontent in the army. But the events in Iran have shown that neither U.S. intelligence or its counterpart Israeli intelligence can render assistance to a regime which has followed the path of a pro-imperialist policy.

MORE ON PALESTINIAN DELEGATION VISIT TO USSR

Khalaf Comment

LD182151 Moscow TASS in English 2058 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 18, TASS--Today a delegation of Palestinian public figures from the occupied West Bank of the Jordan River, visiting the USSR at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies and the Soviet Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Palestine Arab People, met members of the public of the Soviet capital at Moscow's Freindship House. Karim Khalaf, the head of the delegation, mayor of the city of Ramallah, spoke at the meeting. The shameful separate deal, concluded by As-Sadat's capitulatory regime and Israel with U.S. mediation, he said, does not lead to peace. It merely perpetuates the Zionist occupation of Arab lands. A just peace in the region can be only implemented on the basis of observing all the U.N. Security Council's resolutions on the Middle East. During the meeting delegation members underlined as a crucial task now facing the Palestine Liberation Organization and all the population on occupied Arab lands, the frustration of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and the plan for so-called "administrative autonomy" of the West Bank and the Gaza Sector. This calls for uniting all the detachments of the Palestine resistance movement and the progressive forces throughout the Arab world in struggle against intensified machinations by imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

TASS Report on Visit

TASS REPORTS ON PALESTINIANS' VISIT TO USSR

LD192246 Moscow TASS in English 2122 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--A delegation of representatives of Palestinian public from the Israeli occupied West Bank of the Jordan River was on a visit in the Soviet Union from May 9 to 19 at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Societies and the Soviet Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Arab People of Palestine. In Moscow, Leningrad, and Minsk, the delegation had numerous meetings with representatives of Soviet public. The members of the delegation spoke about the courageous struggle of the population of the occupied territories under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization for the legitimate national rights of the Arab Palestinian people against Israel's attempts at annexing the Palestinian lands captured by it under the signboard of the so-called "administrative autonomy" for the population of the West Bank, including Jerusalem and the Gaza Sector. The delegation of representatives of Palestinian public laid wreaths to Lenin's Mausoleum and to the tomb of the unknown soldier.

Communique on Visit

LD192348 Moscow TASS in English 2106 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 19, TASS--"Soviet and Palestinian representatives resolutely condemned the separate Egyptian-Israeli 'peace' treaty concluded under U.S. tutelage, describing it as a treachery of the interests of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples and a serious obstacle in the way of attaining a truly just peace in the Middle East," says the communique on the visit to the USSR of a delegation of representatives of the Palestinian public from the Israeli occupied West Bank of the Jordan River.

It was invited by the Union of Soviet Societies for Freindship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Soviet Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Arab People of Palestine, and was on a visit in the USSR from May 9 to 19.

The delegation had numerous meetings in Moscow, Leningrad and Minsk with representatives of Soviet public.

The Palestinian representatives expressed sincere gratitude to the CPSU and the Soviet people for the firm and invariable support for the struggle of the Arab people of Palestine in defense of its legitimate interests and national rights.

Representatives of Soviet public reaffirmed the solidarity of the Soviet people with the just struggle of the Palestinian people and the Arab states against the intrigues of imperialism, Zionism and their henchmen in the Middle East.

Both sides, says the communique on the visit of the delegation, have expressed firm conviction that a "just and lasting Middle East settlement is possible only on the basis of complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and ensuring the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including its right to self-determination and creation of its own national state."

The participants in the meeting declared full support for the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Departure of Delegation

LD191956 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] The delegation of representatives of Palestinian public opinion from the occupied West Bank has ended its 10-day visit to the Soviet Union. The delegation visited Moscow, Leningrad and Minsk. During their meetings with this delegation, representatives of Soviet social circles condemned the mass violation of elementary human rights in the occupied territories by Israel and they voiced their full support for the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people. They described the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, signed under the patronage of the United States of America, as a betrayal of Arab interests and a grave obstacle to the establishment of a just peace in the Middle East.

REPORT ON 'ARAFAT ADDRESS TO DAMASCUS SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE

LD181445 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Damascus, May 18, TASS--TASS correspondents Aleksandr Zhudro and Vadim Lagutin report.

The international trade union conference of solidarity with the people of Palestine ended in the Syrian capital after working for three days.

Addressing its last meeting, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization Yasir 'Arafat stressed that the conference is held in the conditions of the offensive of the forces of imperialism and Zionism in the Middle East.

This offensive was manifested in the signing by the traitorous As-Sadat regime of the "peace" treaty with Israel under the patronage and with active participation of Washington. According to the designs of the participants in the separate deal As-Sadat's capitulation was expected to force Arab countries [to] give up their positions and agree to the U.S. version of settlement. But the Palestinian people led by its sole lawful representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, will be pressing for complete exercise of their lawful rights, including the right to self-determination and creation of its own independent state. In this struggle the Palestinian people has on its side countries of the socialist community, the entire progressive mankind, Yasir 'Arafat said.

The participants in the conference representing 93 trade union organizations from 63 countries unanimously adopted a call to the working people of the world. The anti-Arab plot of Washington, Tel Aviv and Cairo, the call says, constitutes a threat to the cause of world peace, to detente, freedom and progress of peoples. The signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty encourages the aggressive expansionist policy of Tel Aviv which jointly with the right-wing extremist forces of Lebanon is encroaching on national sovereignty and territorial integrity of that country. The separate deal is a gross violation of the United Nations Charter and resolutions which determine the principles and ways of achieving an all-embracing settlement of the Palestinian problem, the crux of the Middle East conflict.

The participants in the conference, the call says, are urging the working people of the world, their trade unions to strengthen solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people for the exercise of their national rights.

IRAN DEMANDS THAT U.S. POSTPONE AMBASSADOR'S ARRIVAL

LD202300 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Text] The Iranian Government has demanded that the United States postpone the arrival of its new ambassador in Tehran. The Foreign Ministry said United States' continued interference in Iran's internal affairs was reflected in the recent Senate resolution on the situation in Iran. The Foreign Ministry statement said the ambassador would be able to come to Iran when relations between the two countries were cleared up. It pointed out that unfriendly attitudes to the Iranian revolution on the part of the United States could only result in Iran's reappraising its ties with that country and the possible cut in them. The former American Ambassador to Iran, William Sullivan, was known for his close ties with the deposed shah.

USSR APPOINTS V. YUKHIN NEW AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA

LD151632 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 15 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 15, TASS--Vladimir Yukhin has been appointed ambassador of the USSR in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Vladimir Yukhin, born in 1918, has been in the diplomatic service since 1946. He held a number of responsible posts at the apparatus of the Foreign Ministry of the USSR and abroad. In 1970-1974 Yukhin was the USSR's ambassador in Mali, and in 1977-1979--head of the consular department of the Foreign Ministry of the USSR.

Yuriy Chernyakov was relieved of his duties as ambassador of the USSR in Syria in view of another appointment.

TASS CRITICIZES POSSIBLE LIFTING OF EMBARGO ON RHODESIA

ID191138 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0844 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow--TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

Britain and some other imperialist powers are trying to make use of the recent "elections" in Rhodesia, regardless of their clearly falsified nature, as an excuse to recognize the illegal Salisbury puppet regime and to give it open economic and other aid.

Thus, the U.S. Senate a few days ago adopted a resolution which called off the embargo on Rhodesian trade. At the same time the British Prime Minister M. Thatcher announced that her government "welcomes the changes that have taken place in Rhodesia" and sent the highly-placed Conservative diplomat Sir Anthony Duff to Salisbury for talks with the puppets. Trade and economic delegations from many European capitals, Tokyo, Tel Aviv and Pretoria are speeding to Salisbury.

In the light of these facts, which are in blatant contradiction with the UN decisions proclaiming illegal any Rhodesian Government formed on the basis of the results of the elections held under racist control, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the maneuvers by Anglo-U.S. diplomacy on Rhodesia, carried out under the cover of a propaganda campaign of a "peaceful settlement" and "safeguarding the interest" of the African majority, are in practice pursuing diametrically opposite aims.

The Washington and London initiators of "shuttle diplomacy" in southern Africa who, during the past year have created the appearance of an interest in a genuine solution of the Rhodesian problem, have actually only been dragging out time in the interest of the racists, attempting to weaken the positions of the patriots and to win over the Africans of Zimbabwe by deceit and force them to give up the liberation struggle hoping to impose on them a neocolonialist future. For that reason, it is by no means fortuitous that both the future puppet prime ministers, Muzorewa, and I. Smith, the head of the racists who is backing him, are now expressing their "firm confidence" that their regime will be recognized by the West.

In exchange for recognition and the lifting of economic sanctions the Salisbury rulers are promising the West that they will open up the country for wide-ranging foreign investment, and this will only facilitate an increase in exploitation of the African people of Zimbabwe by the transnational corporations and the S. African racists who are in their service. They are even pushing for the establishment of what is being called a "southern African bloc" under the aegis of Pretoria, which is to include S. Africa, Rhodesia, Namibia and also a number of southern African states which cooperate with the racists. The creation of such a military-economic alliance, long nurtured by the strategists of neocolonialism, is viewed by them as an instrument to combat the national-liberation movements and to protect the West's economic and strategic interests throughout the whole African Continent.

This latest deal, concocted in Washington and London with the Salisbury puppets and concluded behind the back of the African people of Zimbabwe, is a fresh challenge to independent Africa, which favors the immediate abolition of the last footholds of colonialism and racism in the continent. Only the full turnover of power in Rhodesia into the hands of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front can resolve the problems of this country in the interests of its people and the cause of peace.

"Political hypocrisy"--this is how the Western position on the Rhodesian issue has been described by Joshua Nkomo, one of the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front. He stressed that the front rejects any possibility of recognizing the puppet regime in Salisbury and that it will fight with weapons in hand for the true freedom and independence of its homeland.

NKOMO, MUGABE AGREE TO COMBINE FORCES

LD200452 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 19 May 79 LD

[Text] The executive of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, which leads the Zimbabwean liberation movement, has held a meeting in Addis Ababa. It was decided to merge the armed forces of the two parties, forming the front, the Zimbabwe African People's Union and the African National Union of Zimbabwe. From now on, the front's armed forces will have unified rules, a single defense council and a unified command. Our correspondent in Addis Ababa, Vadim Lobachenko, asked Willie Musarurwa, ZAPU's information secretary, for details.

Willie Musarurwa said the executive meeting is a step toward consolidating the strength and unity of the Patriotic Front. That unity is a guarantee of the total liberation of the country. The joint defense council set up in Addis Ababa will help intensify the armed struggle against the antipopular Salisbury regime. Nothing changed in Salisbury after the election farce and the racist decision to include several Africal puppets in the new government. The army, the police and the state machinery representing true power remained as before in the hands of the worst enemies of the Zimbabwean people, the racists. Yet, the election farce and the appearance of what is termed as a black government is used by a number of Western countries as a pretext for rehabilitating the racist regime, lifting the UN economic sanctions against Rhodesia and increasing the West's support for the racists. But with all their money, the Western powers will not be able to help the antipopular racist regime, as all the wealth of American imperialism could not help in Vietnam. In closing, the information secretary expressed deep gratitude to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for their assistance to the Zimbabwean patriots. Without that aid, Willie Musarurwa said, the liberation struggle could not develop so successfully.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING USSR VISIT OF NIGERIAN GENERAL

LD181730 Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 18, TASS--The Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Nigeria have confirmed their intention to "increase efforts in the noble cause of consolidating universal peace and international security, deepen detente and develop equitable mutually advantageous cooperation among all countries."

The communique on the visit to the Soviet Union of Major General Shehu M. Yar'Adua, member of the Supreme Military Council, chief of staff of the commander-in-chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, (May 13-17), confirms also the conviction of the sides that a comprehensive solution of the Middle East problem must include the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and restoration of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine. They also declared their recognition of the rights of all the countries of the Middle East to independent existence and security within the recognized borders. The USSR and Nigeria have strongly condemned various manoeuvres of the imperialists and racialists in the south of Africa aimed at "putting off a final collapse of colonialism and racialism, depriving the Zimbabwe and Namibia peoples of the fruits of their long selfless struggle for freedom and national independence", the communique notes.

They stressed that the "recently held so-called elections in Zimbabwe are nothing but a farce, called upon to mislead world public opinion..."

The sides declared that the only way to resolve the problems of the peoples of South Africa was to "liquidate without delay the racialist regimes and to transfer all the power to the genuine representatives of Zimbabwe and Namibia".

"The friendly relations between the USSR and Nigeria are developing successfully in all spheres on the basis of the principles of equality, respect of sovereignty, non-interference in each other's internal affairs", the documents stresses.

Shehu Yar'Adua handed over an invitation to Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, to pay an official visit to Nigeria. The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

CUBAN, ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN MINISTERS HOLD TALKS

LD182200 Moscow TASS in English 1824 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 18, TASS--Ethiopia will exert every effort to (?further) strengthen her friendly relations with the Republic of Cuba, it was stated by Berhanu Baye, member of the Standing Committee of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, chief of the council's Foreign Relations Department.

During the talk with Rene Anillo Capote, first deputy foreign minister of Cuba, who arrived here for negotiations with the Ethiopian leaders, he stressed that Ethiopia and Cuba were united by common goals in the struggle to build a society based on principles of equality, justice and freedom.

According to the Ethiopian news service, much attention at the negotiations will be given to preparations for the 6th conference of the heads of state and government of nonalined countries in Havana. The council's representative expressed the conviction that this conference would promote the further strengthening of unity and cohesion among the members of the nonalinement movement.

CUBA, ETHIOPIA SIGN AGREEMENTS ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION

LD181900 Moscow TASS in English 1324 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 18, TASS--Friendship between Ethiopia and Cuba is founded on firm unity of aims: Both states consistently come out for peace, democracy and social progress, said Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of socialist Ethiopia Hailu Yemanu. Speaking here at the signing of a protocol to the agreement between the two countries on economic, scientific and technical cooperation, he praised the unselfish aid and support given by Cuba to the Ethiopian revolution and stressed that the new document will further strengthen friendship and cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

Speaking in reply, Cuba's Minister of the Light Industry Nora Frometa Silva, who is here on a working visit, said that the people, party and Government of Cuba will further give Ethiopia support in the struggle to build socialist society.

The sides also signed an agreement to set up a joint commission on economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS CAMEROON'S DEVELOPMENT, TIES WITH USSR

LD182120 Moscow TASS in English 1245 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 18, TASS--TASS commentator Nikolay Baratov writes:

On May 20 the people of Cameroon is marking its national day, the seventh anniversary of the formation of the United Republic of Cameroon.

Just as many African countries, Cameroon achieved independence in 1960. One of the most dangerous consequences of the colonial rule for the young state were serious ethnic and regional contradictions in the country that was formed by colonialists without taking into consideration the languages and ethnic and economic ties that have formed. But due to the government's consistent course national unity was achieved through the formation of the Federal Republic which was transformed on May 20, 1972, into the United Republic of Cameroon after approval by the nation-wide referendum.

The successes in the solution of the national question undoubtedly promoted the economic development of the republic. Cameroon, that was in the past a purely agrarian country whose main produce was coffee, cocoa, and cotton, has made important steps along the road of forming such branches of the national economy as the textile, food, chemical and building industries. The discovery of the bauxite and oil deposits make it possible to develop the aluminum and oil processing industries. The state is controlling the most important spheres of economy--distribution of electricity and water supply, banking, communications, air services, mineral resources.

Cameroon has achieved considerable successes in the social and cultural sphere. 80 percent of children of the school age can go to school now which is a great achievement as compared with most countries of West and Central Africa.

In the sphere of international relations Cameroon is conducting the policy based on respect for sovereignty, equality and mutual advantage and is striving for cooperation with all states regardless of their social systems.

The 15th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Cameroon was marked in February of this year. Stable relations in many spheres were established over this period between the two countries. Their commercial relations develop rapidly. Over the past four years, the export of Soviet goods to Cameroon increased 140 percent. The Soviet Union buys from Cameroon valuable kinds of wood, cocoa beans, peanuts and other Cameroon's staple export goods. The Cameroon-Soviet firm CATECO operates successfully. It is engaged in selling and technical servicing of Soviet-made automobiles in Cameroon. Young specialists of Cameroon who received education in the Soviet Union work at many enterprises and state institutions in Cameroon.

MUFTI DENIES ISLAMIC ACTIVITIES PROSCRIBED IN USSR

LD191025 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Muslims in the Soviet Union are preparing to celebrate the beginning of the 15th century of the Hegira on a large scale. On this occasion a meeting was held in Moscow by the heads of the four religious administrations in the Soviet Union, imams, ulema and students. Here is a talk by the chairman of the religious administration of the Muslims of Central Asia and Kazakhstan, Grand Mufti Zia Ut-Din Babkhanov:

[Babkhanov--begin recording] In our country women enjoy equal rights with men, having similar opportunities for education and work; and their livelihood is assured in every aspect. There is no one in the Soviet Union who could be described as weak or poor, as everyone has the chance to make a living, work and eat adequately. Almighty Allah said: Eat all the good things you have earned.

In mosques we and many Muslim men and women assemble to hear the words of Allah and the sermons and advice of the imams. Wherever a population increases, it is possible to build another mosque to avoid overcrowding of Muslims in a single mosque. That is why we have built many mosques in our country. Likewise, our brothers the Tataris, (?Bashkiris), Azerbaijanis, and Dagestanis also built many mosques in their countries.

As to those prejudiced people in the Western countries who allege that mosques are ruined or closed, they are wrong and their claims are false, because we are building mosques throughout the land. All this is consistent with the Soviet Constitution which, in article 52, states that every citizen is free to embrace a faith, and the exercise of religious and Islamic duties is also free. We are taking advantage of this principle laid down in the Soviet Constitution. As to those who are prejudiced, they talk about matters of which they know nothing. They say ulema in the Soviet Union have no rights. This is a blatant lie, because ulema in our land occupy high posts. In this hall there are many muftis, shaykhs of Islam, kadis and imams; yes, in this hall of Moscow's mosque. If the prejudiced were to witness our meetings here and in mosques, they would reproach themselves. When I was in the noble city of Mecca, a man from the United States named (As'ad al-Qisri) met me. I handed him a copy of the Soviet Constitution and showed him the article on religious freedom. He said: How amazing! This is the first time I have heard of or seen this.

We implore almighty Allah to keep the people of the Soviet Union united and friendly, all working in accordance with their efforts and abilities in factories, agriculture and offices, just like all other peoples. May Allah grant us and you all success in shouldering our good deeds and in our affairs. Peace and Allah's blessing upon you.

BRIEFS

CHUKOTKA OKRUG PARTY PLENUM--The third plenum of the Chukotka Okrug party committee was held in Anadyr today to discuss an organizational matter. Pogrebnoy was released from his duties as first secretary and Bureau member of the okrug party committee in connection with his transfer to other work. Vyacheslav Ivanovich Kobets, who formerly worked as second secretary of the Yangodninskiy Raykom, was elected first secretary and Bureau member of the okrug party committee. The plenum also discussed tasks in raising the level of organizational and political work at mining industry enterprises. A report on this subject was selivered by Korneychuk, second secretary of the okrug party committee. Magadanskiy Obkom First Secretary Malkov participated in the plenum. [Magadan Domestic Service in Russian 0755 GMT 17 May 79 OW]

GOSPLAN OFFICIAL ON POOR FIRST QUARTER INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

LD181240 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 17 May 79 LD

["People and Events" program presented by Aleksandr Barabeychik and Eduard Dyatlov]

[Text] [Dyatlov] A press conference was held in Moscow for Soviet and foreign newsmen in connection with the 50th anniversary of the Soviet first 5-year economic development plan. The press conference was addressed by Nikolay Lebedinskiy of the USSR Planning Committee.

[Barabeychik] Nikolay Lebedinskiy told his audience that the scientifically based planning of the economy is one of the advantages of socialism, which has no private companies and monopolies and where the aim of production is the growth of the well-being of all people, without exception.

[Dyatlov] One of the journalists asked about the reasons for poor results in industrial construction, meaning the indices of the first 3 months of this year. Only a 3 percent growth in industry was registered against the planned 5.6 percent. This is what Nikolay Lebedinskiy said:

[Lebedinskiy--begin recording in Russian fading into English translation] First of all, it's the rigorous winter. In Moscow the temperature dropped to minus 45 degrees centigrade, the lowest temperature for the last 100 years. The frosts lasted for weeks in the central parts of the country where major enterprises are located. The frosts led to breaks in electricity and gas supplies. Residential areas were also badly hit. Rectifying the situation, we primarily channelled the energy and fuel supplies to homes, and only then to industrial enterprises. [end recording]

[Dyatlove] Well, as a matter of fact we faced a natural calamity, didn't we?

[Barabeychik] Yes, but on the other hand certain mistakes were made by the management of some enterprises belonging to the gas and electricity board. We didn't foresee the possibility of such severe frosts and, as a consequence, didn't take preventive measures.

[Dyatlov] Meanwhile, the government is taking the necessary measures to redeem the situation by the end of the year. In the main industries we have achieved the planned figures. We think that, by the end of the year, Soviet industry will reach the planned targets and this level today accounts for 20 percent of the world output.

MINISTER, SHEVARDNADZE DISCUSS GEORGIA'S GAS SUPPLY FLAWS

LD210905 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 11 May 79 p 1 LD

[GRUZINFORM report: "Gas Industry Today and Tomorrow"]

[Text] The gas industry is one of the most important sectors of the country's national economy. Social production efficiency and, consequently, the people's living standard largely depend on the results of the gas industry workers' work. A unified gas supply system has been created and is functioning successfully in our country. From the deposits of the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Tadzhikistan the highly productive fuel reaches consumers in all 15 union republics, and abroad. But despite the high and stable tempo of the sector's development, interruptions in the gas supply occurred in Georgia in the first quarter of this year.

The USSR Ministry of Gas Industry is drafting important measures aimed at liquidating the difficulties and insuring the uninterrupted supply of gas to the Transcaucasian republics in the future, particularly during the winter.

S. A. Orudzhev, USSR minister of gas industry, recently inspected the gas pipeline linking Ordzhonikidze city and Tbilisi. At the Tbilgazopparat plant he described the further development of the sector, met with workers and engineering and technical personnel and displayed interest in their working and living conditions.

The minister was accompanied on his tour by leading specialists of the ministry's planning, construction and installation organizations. It was decided to construct a number of additional projects (compressor and pumping stations and other installations) to facilitate an increase in the supply of gas to Georgia. Executive workers were assigned to each project.

Comrade S. A. Orudzhev had a talk with E. A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, and informed him of the measures drawn up by the ministry to improve the republic's gas supply. The talk was attended by Z. A. Pataridze, chairman of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers, G. V. Kolbin, second secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, and V. I. Vadachkoriya, deputy chairman of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers.

BAYBAKOV LAUDS 5-YEAR PLANS AT ANNIVERSARY MEETING

LD201656 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1500 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Fifty years have passed since the First 5-Year Plan for the Soviet Union's economic development. On the occasion of the anniversary, a scientific and practical conference has been held in Moscow. Outstanding scientists, economists and planners and heads of ministries of the national economy took part. An extensive paper was read by Nikolay Baybakov, chairman of the USSR Gosplan.

Nikolay Baybakov said that economic and social development planning became possible due to the victory of the socialist revolution in Russia. The private ownership of industrial enterprises and natural resources was replaced by national ownership. The exploitation of working people was liquidated, and unrestrained capitalist production was ended.

The country's entire national economy is developing on the basis of scientific plans in the interests of all of society. The First 5-Year Plan revealed the enormous advantages of the socialist system and it established the democratic forms and methods for managing the economy. During the implementation of the First 5-Year Plan in the Soviet Union, there was a basic reconstruction of the system of the economy, which remained considerably behind the economies of developed European countries. New and modern industries were created, and heavy industry was created at an accelerated pace, including the engineering and motor industries. New industrial centers were created not only in the center of the country, but also in the Soviet republics which before the revolution were backward Russian borderlands. At the same time, important social tasks were planned. Unemployment and illiteracy were liquidated once and for all, and the population's standard of living improved. The First 5-Year Plan was implemented ahead of schedule, and it created a foundation for all later Soviet 5-year plans as well as an infallible basis for the present economic might of the Soviet Union.

On the eve of World War II the Soviet Union occupied first place in Europe and second place in the world with respect to level of economic development. The advantages of the planned socialist economy enabled the Soviet people to end the war against the Hitlerite invaders victoriously, and to speedily reconstruct the national economy, to which the war had caused enormous losses, Nikolay Baybakov said. The further quantitative and qualitative growth of the Soviet economy was achieved during the implementation of postwar 5-year plans. The main tasks of the economic plans became extensive social programs. These envisage a constant increase in the real income of all strata of the population and also an increase in expenditures from the social budget for free health services and education for the population, and for housing construction. The speaker said that the Soviet Union's experience in planning socioeconomic development is at present the subject of studies in many countries where they have found a broad application. In other papers read at the scientific session in Moscow, the speakers said that the planned development of the national economy was one of the greatest scientific and social achievements of the 20th century. We have acquainted listeners with the theses of the report read by Nikolay Baybakov, chairman of the USSR Gosplan, at the scientific and practical conference held in Moscow on the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the First 5-Year Plan.

DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRICITY OUTPUT IN KAZAKHSTAN PRAISED

LD181058 Moscow TASS in English 0950 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Alma-Ata, May 18, TASS--Per capita output of electricity in the agricultural areas of Kazakhstan is now higher than in industrialized European capitalist countries. What was recently a sparsely populated cattle breeding territory is now supplying electricity to Western Siberia, the south of the Urals, the Altay territory. This is a result of the construction of large-capacity power stations over the past three five-year plan periods. The Yermakovkaya thermal power station (2.4 million kilowatts) and ten large powerstations in regional centres are now functioning at rated capacity. They use coal that is mined in Kazakhstan--at Ekibastuz and Karaganda. 200,000 electric motors operate in collective and state farms in Kazakhstan. They replace manual work of several million of people. The construction of large-capacity power stations made it possible to create rapidly developed industry in the steppe area. Caterpillar tractors, bulldozers, radio equipment and fabrics are now produced in the area. Iron ore is mined. Another four thermal power stations, each with a capacity of four million kilowatts, will supplement the energy base of the grain-growing area. The first of the stations of the Ekibastuz complex will be commissioned in the autumn of this year.

HEAVY FLOODING OCCURS ON MANY SOVIET RIVERS THIS SPRING

LD210850 Moscow in English to North America 0030 GMT 20 May 79 LD

[Text] There have been heavy floods in the lower reaches of the Don River. In some places the river has overflown the banks to a distance of 10 to 12 kilometers. Some towns have been cut off by the water; their residents were evacuated by helicopter and boat. To cope with the consequences of the floods the local authorities have put aside large funds and big amounts of building materials. There have been heavy floods this spring on many Soviet rivers: For example, in the middle reaches of the Volga the water rose by more than 12 meters. The government extends aid to all residents in the affected areas.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 18-20 MAY

LD210655 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 18 May reports that in Kazakhstan grain crops were sown on 1.5 million hectares during the previous day. Wheat and barley would be sown on the 11 millionth hectare during 18 May. This year strong strains of wheat will be sown on more than 10 million hectares. In Tatarskaya, the station says, the sowing of early spring crops has begun on the 2 millionth hectare. The sowing of sugar beets has been completed. In Ternopolskaya Oblast, the radio says, the sugar beet plantations have already completed the first interrow cultivation of the sown area. Every ninth kg of Ukrainian sugar will be processed this season from beets grown in Ternopolskaya.

At 0700 GMT the service reports that the mass sowing of spring wheat is in progress in Altayskiy Kray. The crop is to cover more than 3.5 million hectares. Sowing is to be completed in 8-10 working days. Unfavorable weather is hampering work in Tuvinskaya, the radio says, but machine operators are doing everything possible to get grain crops sown in the best agro-technical period. The planting of potatoes has also begun on farms in the republic. using sprouting tubers on irrigated and well-fertilized land.

At 0830 GMT station notes that in the southern RSFSR the tending of crops has started, but in most areas the sowing of crops is continuing, Potato planting is in progress. The fieldwork front has moved to the north and east of the republic. The mass sowing of spring crops is in progress in Kostromskaya, Yaroslavskaya, Chelyabinskaya, Omskaya, Novosibirskaya, Kemerovskaya and other oblasts of the Non-Chernozem Zone, the Urals and Siberia. By 14 May spring crops had been down on almost 34 million hectares--about 38 percent of the plan. The radio says that in Kazakhstan strong varieties of wheat such as Saratovskaya-29, Bezenchukskaya-98, Tselinnaya-21 and (Shoeshandinskaya)-25, which have great resistance to drought, are being sown in large areas.

At 1100 GMT the station reports that in the Ukraine grain corn has been sown on more than 1.5 million hectares. In Kirgizia, the sowing of cereals has just ended. Strains such as (Przhevalskaya) winter wheat, (Intensivnaya) wheat and (Naryn) winter barley have been widely used.

At 1200 GMT the radio reports;

--The sowing of grain crops is going well in the Irtysh area of Omskaya Oblast;

--The sowing of beets has been completed in Tambovskaya Oblast, where 130,000 hectares were planted. Shoots of the earliest planted beets are already coming through well;

--The lifting of early potatoes has begun in Uzbekistan, in the Surkhan Valley, on the Karshi Steppe and in Tashkent Oasis. The Belorusskiy Ranenyy strain is being used here for the first time.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0100 GMT on 19 May reports that in Altayskiy Kray the mass sowing of wheat is under-way. More than 3.5 million hectares are to be sown. In southern Omskaya Oblast, the radio says, the sowing of wheat is in progress. An average of 17-18 qunitals per hectare has been pledged.

At 0500 GMT the station reports that Kazakhstan grain crops are being sown at the rate of 1.5 million hectares a day. On the previous day Tselinogradskaya Oblast sowed 250,000 hectares and Kustanayskaya Oblast 400,000 hectares. On 19 May Kazakhstan machine operators are sowing on the 12 millionth hectare.

At 0700 GMT the station reports that the mass sowing of wheat has started in the southern virgin land areas of Omskaya Oblast. The area sown with strong and hard wheat varieties is being almost doubled. The producers of bread grain have pledged to harvest an average of 17-18 quintals of grain per hectare.

At 0900 GMT the radio reports:

--Altayskiy Kray grain crop growers are sowing almost 500,000 hectares per day;

--In Kustanayskaya Oblast spring crops have been sown on 1.5 million hectares so far;

--Sowing has begun in Vologodskaya Oblast.

In its 1100 GMT farm news, the station reports:

In Saratovskaya Oblast, spring wheat has been sown on more than 4 million hectares. The more efficient use of machinery is insured by organizing work on Ipatovo lines. Mechanized complexes have been set up for grain crop sowing and for cultivation of corn, fodder crops, buckwheat, soya and millet. In Dagenskaya, this year's spring has had its effect on rice sowing plans. Work has only just begun. Farmers have pledged to sell the state 90,000 tons of grain this year, of which one-half is to be rice. In Belorussia a sudden rise in temperature has speeded up the sowing of buckwheat. The practice of sowing in wide rows is being introduced to permit the use of machinery for working between the rows and top-dressing the plants. In Stavropolskiy Kray an experimental farm is applying up to six quintals of mineral fertilizer per hectare, to produce yields of up to 36 quintals per hectare of strong wheat.

At 1400 GMT the radio reports that Volgogradskaya is completing the sowing of summer crops. They occupy more than 90 percent of the planned area. Orenburgskaya intends to sell the state about 2 million tons of firm and strong wheat, the station says. Sowing has started on the 4 millionth hectare.

At 1750 GMT the station says that in Surkhan-Darinskaya Oblast, Uzbekistan, the second crop sowing has started in those areas which have harvested the first crop. The republic plans to bring in two crops from a total area of 15,000 hectares this year.

At 2050 GMT the radio reports that over "the night of 18-19 May, Tadzhikistan was hit by unprecedently severe winter rain and hail. In only 2 hours, Dushanbe and the surrounding areas of Gissarskaya Valley had more than 40 mm of precipitation. [Words indistinct] the rain caused mud streams and tumbling stones. In the capital of the republic, dozens of houses were destroyed. A brick plant was found to be damaged, as well as some other enterprises. In the agricultural rayons, cottonfields, gardens and vineyards suffered. The government of the republic is taking emergency measures to overcome the effects of the storm.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0000 GMT on 20 May reports that in Kazakhstan sowing is being carried out on the 12 millionth hectare. In Suratovskaya Oblast the sowing of spring wheat on the 4 millionth hectare has been completed. In Dagestanskaya the work on rice sowing has only just begun, but moisture for the crop has been introduced on 6,000 hectares-- almost one-quarter of the republic's rice area.

At 0500 GMT the radio reports:

--In Kustanayskaya Oblast 320,000 hectares have been sown with spring crops in the past 24 hours.

--In Altayskiy Kray the sowing of sunflowers has just been completed. Sunflowers occupy almost 100,000 hectares on the Mulunda Steppe.

--In Checheno-Ingushskaya rice sowing is being completed on 20 May. No less than 45 quintals per hectare is pledged. In Ryazanskaya Oblast 107,000 hectares of potatoes are to be planted.

At 0700 GMT the radio says that in Kazakhstan 14 million hectares have been sown with various crops. Sowing has ended in Uralskaya Oblast. In Kurganskaya Oblast the sowing of wheat, oats, hops and fodder crops is underway.

At 1130 GMT the station says that in Kurganskaya Oblast summer crops have been sown on half a million hectares, almost a quarter of the area allocated to them.

At 1600 GMT the service reports that in Kazakhstan's virgin lands the spring has been dry and there is little moisture in the soil. Therefore, it is important to complete spring fieldwork in 9-10 days. A record 400,000 hectares were sown on 20 May in Kustanayskaya Oblast, the radio reports. With sunflower sowing completed in Altayskiy Kray, machine operators are concentrating efforts on the kray's main crop--spring wheat. About 10,000 sowing teams were in the fields on 20 May. In Moskovskaya Oblast almost 18,000 hectares will be sown with vegetables. The target is no less than 755,000 tons of vegetables for sale to the state, the station reports.

At 1700 GMT the radio says that in southern Kazakhstan the 100-km Mzylkumskiy Canal will irrigate more than 50,000 hectares of rice and cotton land for the first time. The canal has been switched to telemechanical control from the control point. This year the area of irrigated land in Kazakhstan exceeds 1.8 million hectares, the station notes.

COMMENTATOR REVIEWS FIELDWORK PROGRESS REPORTS

LD181214 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1130 GMT on 17 May carries a roundup of fieldwork progress reports, with program presenter Semen Astakhov talking to reporters in various parts of the country. Reporter (Anatoliy Vitkin) reports from Ryazan, stressing the fact that farmers in the oblast have adopted some experiences in fieldwork and work organization from Kazakh farmers. Reporter (Yuriy Balandin) reports from Kurgan that the sowing of early grain crops is in progress, with wheat presently being sown. A large area, one-third of the total area being cultivated, is allocated to barley and oats this year.

The head of the oblast agriculture committee then reports that because of bad weather, fieldwork started 2-3 weeks later than usual. However, farmers have received good advice from (Maltsev), an experienced agricultural expert and twice head of socialist labor, whose work and knowledge was praised by Lenoid Brezhnev in his book "The Virgin Lands." Sowing will be completed by 25 May in the oblast. This year more attention will be paid to fodder production. Farmers are already thinking about the harvest and machinery is being prepared.

Astakhov returns to (Vitkin) in Ryazan, who says that farmers of the oblast are currently sowing early crops on the 2 millionth hectare. The goal of completing sowing in 90-100 working hours is being fulfilled. There are 850,000 hectares allocated to early grain crops. New strains are being sown including the Moskovskaya-35 wheat strain specially created for the RSFSR Non-Chernozem Zone and the Czechoslovak strain of barley (Dvoran). The spring fieldwork began 2 weeks late but because of the widely used Ipatovskiy method, the farms have now reached the same stage of work as at this time last year. The head of the oblast agriculture committee then reports that farmers are now thinking about the harvest. New storage facilities for grain crops will be built. At present there are 121,000 square meters of temporary storage area which will be extended by 45,000 square meters. There are 99 crop dryers and another 11 will be installed by harvest time so that the drying capacity in the oblast will be 38,000 tons daily. As a result, only 1 month, rather than 3 to 4 months as in the past, will be needed to dry all grain crops.

Astakhov cites a report from Azerbaijan which states that the vegetable harvest is in progress. Cucumbers will be transported to Moscow and Leningrad as well as other parts of the USSR at the end of May and tomatoes in July.

LAND RECLAMATION MINISTER ADDRESSES MOSCOW CONFERENCE

LD171716 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 16 May 79 LD

[Text] An all-union conference of land improvement workers is in progress in Moscow today. Comrade Vasilyev, USSR minister of land reclamation and water resources, stressed in his speech to the conference that more than 28 million hectares of reclaimed land, arable for growing hay, are already providing yields, and almost 30 percent of the total gross farming output is brought in every year from this land.

However, despite the enormous scale of land improvement projects, the minister remarked, the industry has some serious shortcomings. In particular, during the first 4 months of this year the plan for bringing irrigated and drained land into use was not met. In the Non-Chernozem Zone alone there was a shortfall of R32 million in the capital investment funds allocated.

The conference is discussing measures to speed up the pace of land improvement and to fulfill the assignments which the July 1978 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee gave the country's water conservation workers.

SALYUT COSMONAUTS CONTINUE UNLOADING PROGRESS CRAFT

LD180945 Moscow TASS in English 0919 GMT 18 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 18, TASS--A TASS correspondent reports from Mission Control Centre: Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin are continuing their orbital flight. Yesterday the crew continued to unload the Progress-6 cargo ship. The cosmonauts tranferred to Salyut-6 containers with food, medical equipment, cine and photo materials, mail and parcels. The greater part of today is devoted to medical studies that are held regularly to determine and forecast the health of the cosmonauts and their capacity for work in conditions of prolonged flight. As the crew commander woke up the dynamics of his blood circulation in conditions of absolute rest were studied. The flight engineer studied blood vessel tonicity. After lunch the two cosmonauts are studying the cardiovascular system's reaction to simulation of the effect of hydrostatic pressure by using the Chibis pressure suit. Clinical control during the studies is effected by the multifunctional Polynom-2M unit. It is also planned for today to replace a ventilator in the station's work compartment. Results of medical checks show that the state of health of Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin is good. The onboard systems of the scientific-research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-32-Progress-6 are functioning normally. Work on the near-terrestrial orbit is proceeding as planned.

BRIEFS

MONSOON RESEARCH--Nairobi, May 15, TASS--TASS correspondent Geliy Skobelev reports: A group of Soviet weather research vessels including Akademik Korolev, Akademik Shirshov, Priliv, Priboy and Volna has left the Kenyan port Mombasa to continue research activities in the Arabian Sea. The ships are taking part in the program of research into global atmospheric processes, elaborated by the World Meteorological Organisation and the International Council of Scientific Unions and consisting of a number of international experiments. Central among these is the first global experiment whose summer program has the coded name Monex-79. The aim is to study the mechanism underlying the formation of monsoons which have an appreciable impact on the circulation of the atmospheric strate of our planet. Taking part in the program are scientists from over 50 countries. Successfully working side by side with Soviet scientists on the Soviet meteorological vessels are specialists from the GDR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Mongolia. Four ships are sent to the area of the experiment from India. A flying laboratory and a meteorological vessel from the United States are also expected to take part. Observations and monitoring are also performed by satellites, balloons, meteorological and radio stations situated in the Indian Ocean area on Madagascar, in Kenya and other countries. [Moscow TASS in English 2134 GMT 15 May 79 LD]

EXPEDITION TO GULF STREAM DELTA--Odessa, May 14, TASS--Today, a Soviet weather scientific research vessel called Passat left here for the area of the socalled "Gulf Stream Delta"--the center of north Atlantic. The program of the expedition includes observations which will, according to Soviet scientists, help clarify the existing data on the causes of the division of Gulf Stream, of the transfer of the water masses in this area. The scientists will also study processes of intermingling of warm waters of Gulf Stream and of the cold waters of northern origins. During the expedition which will last 110 days, the specialists will gather detailed hydrometerological information. The program also includes elaboration of digital models for interaction of oceanic and atmospheric processes. This research effort is required in the first place for devising universal methods for long-term weather forecasts and for further studies into the influence of the tropical and the temperature Atlantic zones on the climate and the weather in the territory of the Soviet Union. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 14 May 79 LD]

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

MILITARY LEADERS ATTEND VICTORY DAY WREATHLAYING

LD160835 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 May 79 p 1 LD

[Correspondent report: "The Immortal Glory of the Heroes"]

[Excerpt] Moscow's Aleksandrovskiy Gardens. The eternal flame flickers on the grave of the unknown soldier. Once again, as in past springs, thousands of people gathered here on 9 May to honor the memory of all who died for our Soviet motherland. This is the traditional start to Victory Day in Moscow.

At 1000 hours the combat banners of famous units and formations which distinguished themselves in battles against the German fascist aggressors were unfurled above serried ranks of Moscow Garrison troops.

The following Soviet commanders paid homage to the unknown soldier: Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense; Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the armed forces General Staff and USSR first deputy minister of defense; Marshal of the Soviet Union V.S. Kulikov, USSR first deputy minister of defense; Army Gen A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy minister of defense; USSR Deputy Ministers of Defense Army Gen V.F. Tolubko, Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, Marshal of the Soviet Union K.S. Moskalenko, Army Gen A.T. Altunin, Col Gen N.N. Alekseyev, Col Gen Eng V.M. Shabanov and Col Gen Eng N.F. Shestopalov; Army Gen I.N. Shkadov, chief of the USSR Ministry of Defense Main Cadre Directorate; marshals of categories of troops, generals and admirals. To the accompaniment of solemn music they mounted the granite steps to the eternal flame and laid wreaths. A scarlet ribbon bore the words: "To the unknown soldier from the troops of the USSR Armed Forces."

BELORUSSIAN MD COMMANDER CITES NEED FOR STRONG DEFENSE

LD210841 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 9 May 79 pp 1-2 LD

[Article by Col Gen Tank Troops M. Zaytsev, commander of the Red Banner Belorussian Military District: "The Great Victory"]

[Excerpt] In consistently implementing the economic and social development program elaborated by the 25th party congress, the Central Committee and the Soviet Government are striving persistently to preserve peace on our planet. The most important result of this activity is that tranquil conditions are insured for the peaceful labor of the Soviet people building communism. Moreover, our party's Leninist foreign policy course has become a tremendous force and a powerful motive factor in present-day international relations.

At the same time, world developments in recent years have been marked by exacerbation of the international situation. Imperialism's reactionary forces, arms manufacturers and militarists, as well as their hirelings and stooges, frightened by the growth of the world revolutionary process, have joined in a broad campaign against detente, disarmament and the peoples' liberation struggle. The monstrous arms race unleashed by imperialism is particularly dangerous. The NATO countries alone, excluding Greece and Turkey, allocated $165 billion for military purposes in 1977, $178 billion last year and more than $213 billion this year. Nobody has any doubts concerning the fact that all this is material preparation for a new world war.

The Chinese leaders are acting in the same direction. Beijing has made an obvious qualitative shift of a counterrevolutionary nature. From ideological struggle against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries the Maoists have moved to a political, economic and even military struggle. This is confirmed with the utmost clarity by the Chinese military's piratical attack on Socialist Vietnam.

In these complex conditions our party and the Soviet Government are taking all necessary steps to reliably insure the security of the country and of the entire socialist community. They proceed on the basis that constant strengthening of the Soviet Armed Forces is an objective necessity arising from the natural features of the extremely acute class struggle between the two systems. That is why Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stated: "We do not intend to weaken our defense in the face of imperialism's growing military might, whatever the demagogic arguments cloaking such appeals. That would have irreparable consequences for socialism and for the peoples' freedom and independence." And he added: "We spend on defense only as much as is absolutely necessary. No less and no more. In accordance with the situation." That statement is wholeheartedly supported by all the Soviet people.

Surrounded by the party's concern and our people's love, Soviet soldiers daily achieve new successes in military labor and are always ready to give an immediate rebuff to any aggressor. This also applies to soldiers of the Red Banner Belorussian Military District. They demonstrate a high level of tactical and firing training and the ability to use equipment and to resolve efficiently the most complex tasks in most difficult modern combat conditions.

TRANSCAUSASUS MD COMMANDER 'HITS IMPERIALISTS, CHINESE

LD210849 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 9 May 79 p 3 LD

[GRUZINFORM-attributed article by Col Gen O.F. Kulishev, commander of the Transcaucasus Military District: "The Soviet People's Great Feat"]

[Excerpt] The Soviet people, warmly and unanimously supporting the party's Leninist policy and filled with mighty creative forces and constructive energy, look to the future with confidence. Rallied closely around their tested vanguard--the party of Lenin--they are marching confidently toward the cherished goal of communism.

But despite the peaceful policy of the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries, the forces of imperialism and reaction have recently been trying to interfere in the peoples' internal affairs and have been seeking to revive the atmosphere of distrust and brinkmanship. They seek to extend existing aggressive military political blocs and create new ones, fan hotbeds of tension in different parts of the globe, provoke military conflicts and whip up the arms race.

The present Chinese leadership is acting in concert with the most double-dyed world reaction. It openly proclaims a course of preparing for a new war and creating a united anti-Soviet front. In taking up arms with criminal ease against Socialist Vietnam, the Chinese leaders again exposed the aggressive essence of their hegemonist policy and showed how irresponsible is Beijing's attitude toward the fate of peace.

Our party and the Soviet people vigilantly follow the development of international events and assess the situation soberly. The lessons of war teach this unremitting vigilance and the need and ability to tirelessly strengthen the defense capability of the Soviet state and its armed forces and combat collaboration with the armies of the fraternal Warsaw Pact socialist countries.

A characteristic feature of the present stage in Soviet military building is the further increase in the Communist Party's role in the leadership of all armed forces activity.

A great contribution is made to the creative development of Leninist teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland and to resolving major questions of military building, the training and education of military cadres and improvement of party political work, by Marshal of the Soviet Union Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the USSR Defense Council. An active participant in many battles, Leonid Ilich possesses the richest experience of the direct organization of the armed defense of the socialist fatherland. This experience clearly emerges from the book "On Guard Over Peace and Socialism," which includes Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's reminiscences "Malaya Zemlya."

Under party leadership in recent years the armed forces have undergone genuinely revolutionary changes and are now at a qualitatively new stage in their development.

The successes of the socialist economy, science and technology have made it possible to improve the army and navy's equipment with weapons and combat hardware. Simultaneously with technical equipment, the organizational structure of troops is being improved and military science is developing. All this has made possible a considerable growth in the Soviet Armed Forces' combat potential.

OGARKOV VIEWS ARMED FORCES, MILITARY POLICY ON VICTORY DAY

LD210815 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 May 79 p 1 LD

[Article by Marshal of the Soviet Union N. Ogarkov, chief of General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister: "The Immortal Feat"]

[Excerpts] The further the events of the Great Patriotic War recede into history, the brighter and more impressive in the eyes of mankind is the Soviet people's feat--their great victory over the forces of fascism and militarism.

The battles between the opposing sides, as is known, were spread over a vast area of our planet, but the main theater of military operations throughout the war was the Soviet-German front. It was here, for almost 4 years, that 190-270 crack divisions of fascist Germany and its satellites were operating simultaneously, whereas our allies in the anti-Hitler coalition, even in the closing stages of the war in West Europe, were only opposed by 56-75 enemy divisions.

Today imperialist ideologists are trying to drown the historical truth in a murky stream of lies and falsifications, to juggle with historical facts and to minimize the decisive role and the worldwide-historic significance of the Soviet Union's victory. The bourgeois falsifiers' refrain is taken up by Maoist "historians," who try to prove that hostilities on Chinese territory at that time constituted all but the main theater of World War II. However, all these vain attempts by imperialist falsifiers and their accomplices are powerless in the face of historical truth and are doomed to failure.

The defeat of fascism--the most aggressive and reactionary force of imperialism--by the Soviet Army is of truly worldwide-historic significance. It had a tremendous influence on the whole postwar development of mankind. The world system of socialism--which has now become the decisive factor in social development--was formed.

The reactionary forces of imperialism are now making efforts to wreck the relaxation of international tension and revive the atmosphere of the cold war. The American imperialists and their allies in the aggressive NATO bloc are trying to play the "Chinese card" for anti-Soviet purposes. The Beijing rulers, having openly betrayed Marxism-Leninism, are grouping themselves increasingly closely with the most reactionary forces in the West, seeking to form not only a political and economic bloc but even a military bloc with the United States, NATO and Japan. In the interests of their aggressive policy and in order to throw together a counterrevolutionary "broad united front" in the struggle against world socialism and the forces of democracy and national liberation, they are openly sowing distrust between peoples. How adventurist the Beijing ruling clique's policy has become, how low they have fallen in betraying the cause of socialism, was demonstrated by their shameful aggression against the Vietnamese people and by their troops' crimes on the long-suffering Vietnamese territory. With their piratical attack on Socialist Vietnam the "present Beijing rulers," Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has said, "finally revealed to all the world the perfidious, aggressive essence of the great-power hegemonist policy they are implementing. Now everyone can see that it is this policy which now constitutes the most serious threat to peace throughout the world."

In implementing their principled foreign policy line of peace, the socialist states are striving for the decisive normalization of the international atmosphere. In the interests of stabilizing peace they advocate that the political relaxation of international tension should be supplemented with military detente and that a broad comprehensive and constructive arms race limitation and disarmament program should be implemented step by step. An important role in resolving these cardinal problems could be played by the successful completion of the USSR-U.S. talks on strategic offensive arms limitation, and also of the Vienna talks on reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

The fundamental basis of military building is still the Communist Party's leadership of the armed forces. The CPSU's constantly increasing leading role in the conditions of mature socialism is the decisive factor in constantly improving Soviet military organization and strengthening and developing the combat might of the Soviet Armed Forces. A tremendous contribution is made personally to this cause by Marshal of the Soviet Union Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the USSR Defense Council.

The Soviet Armed Forces now possess advanced models of weapons and military hardware. Combat might and combat readiness have now improved to a qualitatively new level. Our servicemen, from private soldier to marshal--of one flesh with the Soviet people--are ready at any moment to defend the people's revolutionary gains and fulfill with honor their filial duty to the motherland. In their day-to-day military activity they proceed on the basis of Lenin's precept that "...the first commandment of our policy, the first lesson... which all workers and peasants must master is to be on the alert...."

The personnel of the USSR Armed Forces are greeting Victory Day with a feeling of legitimate pride in the great Soviet people, who fulfilled with honor their patriotic and international duty, and for the worldwide-historic feat of the land of the soviets, which marches in the vanguard of social progress. Inspired by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April (1979) Plenum and the first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 10th convocation, and by the outstanding successes of the motherland of Great October in building communism, Soviet servicemen are worthily continuing the traditions of those who wrought the great victory, the traditions of their fathers and elder brothers. Their military labor is illuminated by its undying light.